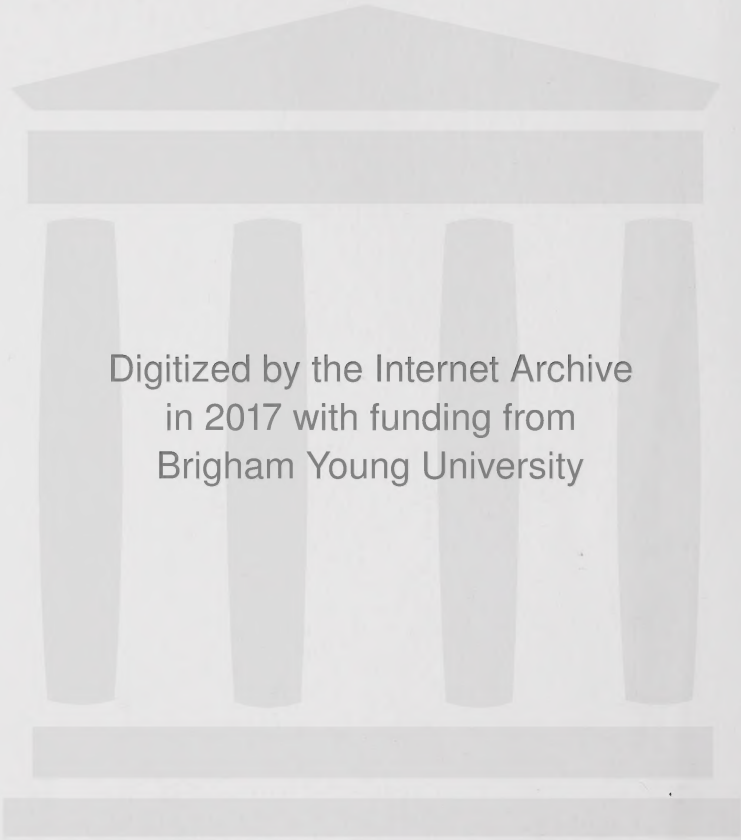
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HISTORY OF

Holt County, Missouri

From the Time of the Platte Purchase to
the End of the Year 1916

Preceeded by a Short History of Missouri

Supplemented by Biographical Sketches of
Prominent Citizens

By the History Publishing Company

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Introduction

It has been about thirty years since a history of Holt County was published. At that time a very creditable volume was presented and it has served its purpose well. But when one looks at its pages he is impressed with the thought that time moves on incessantly. We have often been told that there is no stopping of time and this is brought most vividly to mind by a perusal of any book of this character published a quarter of a century, or such a matter, in the past.

What great developments have taken place within the period between the publication of the last history of Holt County and the one here presented! A progress, that by its magnificence and magnitude, forbid even an attempt at description, goes marching on. It impels the student of modern events to pause and wonder what of the future.

This volume has been compiled just as other books of the kind are compiled. The work of former historians has been used where possible. Much of the data in the earlier book could not be changed if we willed it. But there has been much to add. More than half of this volume is now subject matter. It has all been prepared with a view to accuracy and brevity. Facts have been verified wherever possible, and while we do not profess to be models of perfection, we believe this book is as free from errors as it is possible to make such a work.

The publishers wish to acknowledge their obligations to D. P. Dobyns, and the Holt County Sentinel, whose well indexed statistical data has been an invaluable help. D. B. Kunkel, the County Clerk, as well as all county officers have our thanks for favors shown. The newspapers of the county, without exception are entitled to mention for the many courtesies extended.

THE PUBLISHERS.

History of Missouri

CHAPTER I.

HERNANDO DE SOTO—THE NAME OF MISSOURI—EARLY SETTLEMENTS—FRENCH AND SPANISH RULE—LOUISIANA PURCHASE—TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT—ADMITTED AS A STATE—FIRST REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS—GOVERNORS McNAIR, BATES, MILLER, DUNKLIN, BOGGS, REYNOLDS, EDWARDS, KING, PRICE, POLK, HANCOCK, JACKSON AND STEWART—1541 TO 1857.

The first white man to put foot on the soil of Missouri was Hernando de Soto, the Spaniard. This was in 1541. He led a small band of soldiers of fortune as far north as the region now known as New Madrid County, and then moved west across the Ozark Mountains and went into Arkansas. He sought gold, but finding none, returned to the Mississippi and died. He was buried at midnight in the river he had discovered, and his priests chanted over his body the first requiem ever heard in the Mississippi Valley. The Indians believed him to be the son of the sun, who could not die, and his body was consigned to the waters to conceal his death and keep the Indians in awe.

The Spanish, however, did not colonize Missouri. In 1662 Robert Cavalier de la Salle, a Frenchman from Quebec, came down the Mississippi and took possession of the whole country in the name of Louis XIV., the reigning King of France. Within the next fifty years various settlements were projected, all in the interest of gold and silver mining. It is said that in 1705 a prospecting party of Frenchmen ascended the Missouri River as far as where Kansas City is now located.

In his school history, Perry S. Rader of Brunswick states that this river was first called Pek-i-ta-nou-i by Marquette, which is an Indian word meaning "muddy water." About 1712, says Mr. Rader, it was first called Missouri, from the name of a tribe of Indians who inhabited the country at its mouth and along a considerable portion of its banks. There is no authority, according to Mr. Rader, for the often-repeated assertion that "Missouri means muddy." This definition of the word was given to it after the name of the river was changed from Pekitanoui to Missouri.

The first place settled in Missouri was Ste. Genevieve, in about 1735, and the next settlement of consequence was St. Louis. The latter place owes its existence to Pierre Laclede Ligueste, more generally known in history as Pierre Laclede.

The first settlement north of the Missouri River was at St. Charles, called Village des Cotes (Village of the Hills) then, and most of the Indian wars and adventures which figure in the early history of the state occurred in this vicinity.

When France lost Canada she gave up all her possessions in America. Canada and the country east of the Mississippi, except New Orleans, went to England in 1763, and Spain was indemnified for losses in the war with the territory west of the river, which included Missouri. Spanish governors ruled until 1800, when Louisiana was transferred to France, through the efforts of the first Napoleon, who had planned a monarchy in the new world. Both the people of the United States and the government of England objected to this. Negotiations were opened by President Jefferson for the Louisiana purchase. Napoleon, who was getting into close quarters, accepted an offer of $15,000,000, and the country was ceded to the United States. The French had not yet taken possession. On March 9, 1804, the American troops crossed the Mississippi and entered St. Louis, where Don Carlos Delassus, the Spanish commandant, delivered Upper Louisiana to Captain Amos Stoddard of the United States army, who received it as the agent of France and transferred it to himself as the agent of the United States. By this transaction Missouri was under the flags of three nations in as many consecutive days.

Congress divided Louisiana into two parts soon after the transfer. All that is now within the State of Louisiana was called the Territory of New Orleans, the rest was called the District of Louisiana. The district was attached, for administrative purposes, to the then Territory of Indiana, whose governor was General William Henry Harrison. This was unsatisfactory, and upon a petition from the people the territory was separated from Indiana and given a governor and three judges.

The first governor appointed under the new order of things was General James Wilkinson, who was succeeded by General Merriwether Lewis, of the famous Lewis-and-Clark expedition. General Lewis committed suicide in Tennessee in 1809, while on his way to Washington, and President Madison appointed General Benjamin Howard of Lexington, Ky., to succeed him.

In 1812 Congress passed a law by which Louisiana was raised from a second-grade to a first-grade territory, with a governor and general assembly, and its name was changed to Missouri.

Governor Howard resigned in 1812, and was succeeded by Captain William Clark, the companion of General Lewis in their exploration, and who was known as "Redhead" by the Indians, over whom he exercised great influence. Captain Clark was the first and only governor of the Territory of Missouri. Edward Hempstead of St. Louis was elected the first delegate to Congress

from the new territory, and was the first delegate to that body from west of the Mississippi River. He was succeeded in 1815 by Rufus Easton, and he, in 1817, by John Scott, who served until Missouri became a state.

The first general assembly of the new territory met on December 7, 1812, at St. Louis, in the house of Joseph Robidoux, the father of the founder of St. Joseph.

In 1818 Missouri applied for admission to the Union as a state. Two years of bitter controversy ensued, which convulsed the country and threatened the dissolution of the Union. This controversy followed a resolution introduced into Congress which intended to prohibit slavery in Missouri. The momentous question was finally settled by the adoption of the "Missouri Compromise," which forbade slavery in all that portion of the Louisiana purchase lying north of 36 degrees 30 minutes, except in Missouri, and on March 2, 1820, the law passed admitting Missouri to the Union.

A convention to frame a constitution had already been called, and the constitution then adopted remained without material change until 1865. The population of Missouri in 1820 was 66,000, of which number 10,000 were slaves.

Captain Clark and Alexander McNair were rival candidates for the first gubernatorial honors of the new state. McNair was elected, with William H. Ashley of St. Louis as lieutenant-governor. Governor McNair served four years. He was a Pennsylvanian by birth and had been United States commissary at St. Louis for a number of years before he was elected governor. He died in 1826.

The first general assembly of the state, composed of fourteen senators and forty-three representatives, met at St. Louis in September of 1820, and elected David Barton and Thomas H. Benton United States senators. John Scott was the first congressman, the state being entitled to but one member of the lower house at that time. Scott had been the territorial delegate, and was an able man.

Until 1851 the judges of the supreme court were appointed by the governor. The first members of the supreme court were Mathias McGirk of Montgomery County, John D. Cook of Cape Girardeau, and John Rice Jones of Pike.

At its first session the legislature organized the following ten counties: Boone, Callaway, Chariton, Cole, Gasconade, Lafayette, Perry, Ralls, Ray, and Saline.

The second governor was Frederick Bates, who died before completing his first year of service. Benjamin Reeves, the lieu-

tenant-governor, having resigned shortly after his election, the executive office fell to the president pro tem. of the senate, Abraham J. Williams of Columbia, who at once called a special election, which brought John Miller of Howard County to the head of the administration. Governor Miller was elected in 1828, with Daniel Dunklin of Potosi as lieutenant-governor.

Spencer Pettis was the second congressman. He was killed in a duel on Bloody Island by Major Biddle. In his canvass he had sharply criticized Major Biddle's brother, president of the United States Bank, for which Major Biddle severely chastised him. Mr. Pettis issued a challenge, and both combatants were killed. This was in 1831. William H. Ashley was elected to succeed Mr. Pettis.

Daniel Dunklin was elected governor in 1832. He resigned one month before the expiration of his term to become surveyor-general of Missouri, Arkansas and Illinois. He was an ardent advocate of the public school and did much toward the development of the system in this state.

Lilburn W. Boggs of Jackson County, the Democratic candidate, was elected to succeed Governor Dunklin, with Franklin Cannon of Cape Girardeau as lieutenant-governor. William H. Ashley of St. Louis, a Whig, who had been his opponent, was elected to Congress in the same year.

It was during the administration of Governor Boggs that the Mormon troubles occurred. The part taken by the governor caused an attempt upon his life. He was shot at Independence in 1841. Three bullets lodged in the victim's neck and head; another passed through and came out at the mouth. Nevertheless, Governor Boggs recovered, and died in California in 1861. Peter Rockwell, a Mormon, was charged with the crime, but was acquitted, the evidence being insufficient.

Thomas Reynolds of Howard County, a Democrat, was elected governor in 1840, with Meredith M. Marmaduke of Saline County as lieutenant-governor. The presidential campaign of this year was attended with deep interest in Missouri, as in other states. The Whig candidate was General William Henry Harrison of Indiana, and the Democratic candidate was Martin Van Buren. Harrison was called the "log cabin candidate." The contest was called the "log cabin, coon skin and hard cider campaign," and the emblems were displayed in reality at the public meetings.

At this election the Whigs for the first time assumed a distinct organization in Missouri. Before that some Whigs had been prominent in politics, and had been elected to important offices, but they were chosen often on account of their personal

popularity and worth, rather than because of their politics. But for the next twelve years the party made bold and aggressive campaigns at every election, although at no time did they gain control of the state.

Governor Reynolds committed suicide at the executive mansion on February 9, 1844, whereupon Lieutenant-Governor Marmaduke took charge and served until the 20th of November.

John C. Edwards of Cole County was elected governor in 1844, with James Young, of Lafayette County, as lieutenant-governor. There were then, as now, two factions in the Democratic party of Missouri, and they were divided upon the money question. One faction, which favored silver and gold money, headed by Senator Benton, had nominated and elected Governor Edwards. The other faction favored a liberal use of paper money and opposed the re-election of Senator Benton.

In 1848 Austin A. King, of Ray County, Democrat, was elected governor over James S. Rollins, of Boone, a Whig. Thomas L. Price, of Cole County, was elected lieutenant-governor. Mr. King, who, prior to his nomination for governor, had been judge of the Fifth judicial circuit, held the first term of court in Buchanan County. When the war broke out he denounced the secession movement and was elected to Congress by the Union party in 1862. He died in 1870 at Richmond.

Sterling Price was elected governor in 1852. He was from Chariton County, and his name figures prominently in the history of the nation, both as a soldier in the war with Mexico and as a brilliant leader of Confederate forces during the rebellion. After the war he embarked in business in St. Louis, and died there in 1867.

Trusten Polk, a St. Louis lawyer of great ability, was elected governor in 1856, as the Democratic candidate, over Robert C. Ewing, the "American," or "Know-Nothing," candidate. He served less than a month, however, having been elected by the legislature to the United States senate, from which body he and his colleague were expelled by the Republican members early in the war, for disloyal utterances. He died in St. Louis in 1876.

Hancock Jackson, the lieutenant-governor, served until August of 1857, when Robert M. Stewart, of St. Joseph, was elected.

CHAPTER II.

MISSOURI IN VARIOUS WARS.—TROOPS FOR THE BLACK HAWK WAR.—THE MORMAN DIFFICULTIES. —COLONEL GENTRY'S TROOPS IN THE SEMINOLE WAR.—THE WAR WITH MEXICO.

Six wars figure in the history of Missouri—the Black Hawk war, the Mormon difficulties, the Seminole war, the war with Mexico, the Civil war, and the war with Spain, in 1898.

On the 14th day of May, 1832, a bloody engagement took place between the regular forces of the United States and a part of the Sacs, Foxes and Winnebago Indians, commanded by Black Hawk and Keokuk, near Dixon's ferry, in Illinois. The governor (John Miller) of Missouri, fearing these savages would invade the soil of his state, ordered Major-General Richard Gentry to raise one thousand volunteers for the defense of the frontier. Five companies were at once raised in Boone, Callaway, Montgomery, St. Charles, Lincoln, Pike, Marion, Ralls, Clay, and Monroe counties. These companies went to Fort Pike, but finding that Black Hawk had not crossed the Mississippi River, returned home and disbanded.

* * *

Upon the present town site of Independence the Mormons located their "Zion" and gave it the name of "The New Jerusalem." They published here The Evening Star and made themselves generally obnoxious to the Gentiles, who were then in the minority, by their denunciatory articles through their paper, their clannishness, and their religious intolerance. Dreading the demoralizing influence of a paper which seemed to be inspired only with hatred and malice toward them, the Gentiles threw the press and type into the Missouri River, tarred and feathered one of their bishops, and otherwise gave the Mormons and their leaders to understand that they must conduct themselves in an entirely different manner if they wished for peace. After the destruction of their paper and press, they became furiously incensed, and sought many opportunities for retalliation. Matters continued in an uncertain condition until the 31st day of October, 1833, when a deadly conflict occurred near Westport, in which two Gentiles and one Mormon were killed. On the 2d of November following the Mormons were overpowered and compelled to lay down their arms and agree to leave the country with their families by January 1, on the condition that the owner would be paid for his printing press. Leaving Jackson County, they crossed the Missouri and located in Clay, Carroll, and other counties.

In 1837 they selected in Caldwell County a town site, which

they called "Far West," and where they entered more land for their future homes. The printing press mentioned above was taken from the river, taken to St. Joseph, and used in producing the first issue of The Gazette.

In 1838 the discord between the citizens and Mormons became so great that Governor Boggs issued a proclamation ordering Major-General David R. Atchison to call the militia of his division to enforce the laws. He called out a part of the First Brigade of the Missouri state militia, under command of General A. W. Doniphan, who proceeded to the seat of war. The Mormon forces numbered about 1,000 men, and were led by G. W. Hinkle. The first engagement occurred at Crooked River, where one Mormon was killed. The principal fight took place at Haughn's Mills, where eighteen Mormons were killed and the remainder captured, some of them being killed after they had surrendered. Only one militiaman was wounded. In the month of October, 1838, Joseph Smith, the leader of the Mormons, and the chosen prophet and apostle of the church, surrendered the town of Far West to General Doniphan, agreeing to his conditions, viz.: That they should deliver up their arms, surrender their prominent leaders for trial, and the remainder of the Mormons should, with their families, leave the state. Indictments were found against a number of these leaders, including Smith, who, while being taken to Boone County for trial, made his escape, and was afterward, in 1844, killed at Carthage, Ill. The others were acquitted.

* * *

In September, 1837, the Secretary of War issued a requisition on Governor Boggs of Missouri for six hundred volunteers, for service in Florida against the Seminole Indians, with whom the Creek nation had made common cause under Osceola. The first regiment was chiefly raised in Boone County by Colonel Richard Gentry. Arriving at Jackson Barracks, New Orleans, they were from there transported in brigs across the gulf to Tampa Bay, Florida. General Zachary Taylor, who then commanded in Florida, ordered Colonel Gentry to march to Okeecho-bee, one hundred and thirty-five miles inland by the route traveled. Having reached the Kissimee River, seventy miles distant, a bloody battle ensued, in which Colonel Gentry was killed, on Christmas day of 1837. The Missourians then fought without a leader until they had completely routed the Indians. They returned home in 1838.

* * *

The Missourians also distinguished themselves in the war with Mexico in 1846-48. Not waiting for the call for volunteers, the "St. Louis Legion" hastened to the field of conflict. The Legion was commanded by Colonel A. R. Easton. During the month of May, 1846, Governor Edwards of Missouri called for

volunteers to join the "Army of the West," an expedition to the Santa Fe—under command of General Stephen W. Kearny. Fort Leavenworth was the appointed rendezvous for the volunteers. By the 18th of June the full completement of companies to compose the First Regiment had arrived from Jackson, Lafayette, Clay, Saline, Franklin, Cole, Howard, and Callaway counties. Of this regiment A. W. Doniphan was made colonel, C. F. Ruff lieutenant-colonel, and William Gilpin major. The battery of light artillery from St. Louis was commanded by Captains R. A. Weightman and A. W. Fischer, with Major M. L. Clark as field officer; battalions of infantry from Platte and Cole counties, commanded by Captains Murphy and W. Z. Augney, respecively, and the "Laclede Rangers," from St. Louis, by Captain Thomas B. Hudson, aggregating, all told, from Missouri, 1,658 men. In the summer of 1846 Hon. Sterling Price resigned his seat in Congress and raised a mounted regiment to reinforce the "Army of the West." He was made colonel, and D. D. Mitchell lieutenant-colonel. Shortly afterwards an independent battalion went under Lieutenant-Colonel Willock from Hannibal. In August, 1847, Governor Edwards made another requisition for one thousand men, to consist of infantry. The regiment was raised at once. John Dougherty, of Clay County, was chosen colonel, but before the regiment marched the President countermanded the order. A company of mounted volunteers was raised in Ralls County, commanded by Captain William T. Lalfland. Conspicuous among the engagements in which the Missouri volunteers participated in Mexico were the battles of Brazito, Sacramento, Canada, El Embudo, Taos, and Santa Cruz de Rosales. The forces from Missouri were mustered out in 1848.

CHAPTER III.

THE CIVIL WAR.—AGITATION OF THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY.—GOVERNOR STEWART'S AIM.—GOVERNOR JACKSON'S UTTERANCES.—THE CONVENTION OF 1861.—LYON AND BLAIR AT ST. LOUIS.—LIBERTY ARSENAL AND CAMP JACKSON.—THE GOVERNOR ABANDONS THE CAPITAL.—STERLING PRICE.—THE FIRST BATTLE.—SKIRMISH AT CARTHAGE.—WILSON'S CREEK.

Governor Stewart was succeeded by Claiborne F. Jackson of Saline County, who was elected as a Douglas Democrat in 1860. He received 77,446 votes. Opposed to him were Sample Orr, a "Know-Nothing," who received 64,583 votes, and Hancock Jackson, a Breckenridge Democrat, who received 6,135 votes.

Public feeling was at unrest, for the agitation of the abolition of negro slavery had stirred the people as nothing before had ever done. The North and South were divided, and secession from the Union was urged in slave states, that the people therein might hold their property in peace, for slaves were valuable chattels. Others advised arbitration and the perpetuation of the Union.

The fugitive slave law did much to aggravate the troubles. This law gave the owner of a fugitive slave the right to pursue the fugitive into any state and take him out without any verdict of court. In the celebrated Dred Scott decision the supreme cour said this law was constitutional.

As a result of this decision, the legislatures of a number of Northern states passed laws nullifying the fugitive slave law, and the United States authorities found themselves powerless. At this assertion of state's rights on the part of the Northern states, the Southern states argued that if the Northern states could nullify one law of the Union, the Southern states could, by application of the same principle, nullify all of the laws of the Union and withdraw from the Union entirely.

In the presidential campaign of 1860 the Breckenridge party declared if the Republican party (which had come into existence in 1856, after the passing of the Whig party) were successful at the polls, the Southern states would withdraw from the Union. Abraham Lincoln was elected, and subsequent events show how the Southern states made good their threat. Missouri was the only state that gave Stephen A. Douglas its electoral vote.

When the Southern states seceded, in 1860, Missouri was confronted with a grave problem, being at the time the most populous of the slave-holding states. Governor Stewart, who was then retiring from office, sincerely desired to keep Missouri in the Union, but he was opposed to forcing the seceded states back into the Union, and was opposed to Missouri's taking part in such a project; so, also, was he opposed to the introduction of troops, either to force Missouri out of the Union or to keep her in.

Governor Jackson, though he had been elected as a Douglas Democrat, now expressed different views. "The destiny of the slave-holding states is one and inseparable," he declared in his inaugural, "and Missouri," he concluded, "will, in my opinion, best consult her own interests, and the interests of the whole country, by a timely determination to stand by her sister states." Lieutenant-Governor Reynolds, who presided over the senate, favored secession, because he believed it impossible for Missouri to prserve an "armed neutrality."

A bill providing for a state convention to consider what position Missouri should take with regard to secession was passed by the legislature soon after it convened. This convention met at St. Louis on the last day of February, 1861.

In the election of delegates the people had divided into three parties—Secessionists, Conditional Union men and Unconditional Union men. Governor Jackson, Lieutenant-Governor Reynolds, Senators Polk and Green and ex-Senator David R. Atchison led the Secessionists. Judge Hamilton R. Gamble of St. Louis, Alexander W. Doniphan, Sterling Price and ex-Governor Stewart led the Conditional Union men. They were for union, provided the federal government would not attempt to force the seceded states back and attempt to coerce them into submission. The Unconditional Union men were for the Union, come what might, and they were in favor of forcing the seceded states back into the Union. They were led by Frank P. Blair of St. Louis, Judge Fagg of Pike County, Arnold Krekel of St. Charles, General John D. Stephenson of Franklin County, and Sam Breckenridge of St. Louis, and were most ardently supported by the German-Americans of the state.

Sterling Price presided over the convention. Buchanan County was represented by ex-Governor Stewart, ex-Congressman Willard P. Hall and Robert W. Donnell. Secession was defeated, the convention declaring that there was "no adequate cause to compel Missouri to dissolve the connection with the federal Union." The convention perpetuated itself, after a session of twenty-three days, by adjourning subject to the call of the executive committee.

A measure making provision for arming the state militia was defeated in the legislature, and that body adjourned without

making arrangements for war. In fact, neither war nor armed neutrality were desired by the people.

When Fort Sumter fell, on April 13, 1861, President Lincoln called for 75,000 troops. In response to a requisition for four regiments, Governor Jackson replied that Missouri would not furnish a man to "carry on an unholy crusade upon the seceded states."

In the meantime Captain Nathaniel Lyon and Francis P. Blair were preparing for trouble at St. Louis. Captain Lyon, a West Point graduate, had enlisted and drilled five regiments and armed them from the St. Louis arsenal. General Frost, who had returned with 700 state troops from the Kansas troubles, was quartered at the edge of St. Louis, in Camp Jackson.

When the call for troops came Lyon and Blair were to a considerable extent prepared for business. Under a special order from the Secretary of War to enroll ten thousand loyal citizens of St. Louis and vicinity, five new regiments were formed, known as the "Home Guards." The first five regiments were known as Missouri Volunteers. Of the ten regiments, nine were made up largely of German-Americans.

There was a government arsenal about four miles south of Liberty, in Clay County. It was in charge of Major Nathaniel Grant and two other men and contained about 11,000 pounds of powder, about 1,500 guns and twenty or thirty small cannon. On April 20, 1861, two hundred men, under Colonel H. L. Routt, most of them from Clay and Jackson counties, quietly took possession of this arsenal, without interruption. The guns and ammunition were removed, some of the supplies being taken to St. Joseph and ultimately reaching the Confederate army. General Lyon drove through Camp Jackson, disguised in female attire, and convinced himself that some of the supplies had been brought there. He had been hoping for an opportunity to break up General Frost's command, and lost no time in setting about his work.

Camp Jackson was attacked on May 10th, and General Frost surrendered without a struggle. It was a case of 700 to 7,000, and he did the best he could. General Lyon's troops were frightened by a mob of citizens while returning with their prisoners, and fired several volleys into the crowd, leaving some forty people dead and wounded in the streets.

General Harney, who was in command of St. Louis, justified the attack upon Camp Jackson, but many people disagreed with him, and the breach between the Union and Secession classes was at once widened. Among those who differed with General Harney was General Price, who now offered his services to Governor Jackson for what he declared to be in defense of the state,

and he was at once appointed major-general of the Missouri state guards.

On June 11, 1861, Governor Jackson and General Lyon met in a conference at St. Louis to agree, if possible, upon a plan for the restoration of order. No agreement was reached, however, after five hours, and General Lyon, who was an impetuous man, suddenly broke up the conference and gave the governor an hour to get ready to be conducted out of his lines.

General Jackson hastened to Jefferson City and issued a proclamation, calling for fifty thousand volunteers "for the purpose of repelling the attack that has been made on the state, and for the protection of the lives, liberties and property of her citizens." On the following day he and General Price, together with the state officers and state papers, left for Boonville.

Here the first battle of the rebellion in Missouri was fought, on June 17, 1861, between the forces of General Lyon and Colonel John S. Marmaduke, resulting in a victory for Lyon. Marmaduke had two killed and five wounded, while Lyon's loss was two killed and nine wounded.

Jackson retreated southward with an army of 7,000 men, so poorly organized and wretchedly equipped that it was little better than a mob. At Carthage General Sigel was encountered, with a loss to Jackson of ten killed and sixty-one wounded, and to Sigel of thirteen killed and thirty-one wounded; but Jackson carried the day and Sigel retreated to Sarcoxie.

Governor Jackson went to Memphis and induced Governor Polk to send General Pillow with 6,000 men to Missouri, but General Fremont checked this invasion at Bird's Point, on the Mississippi. It was planned that Pillow should co-operate with General Jeff Thompson, who had gone from St. Joseph.

However, Price received aid from McCulloch and Pearce, who were stationed in the Indian Territory. On August 10, 1861, was fought the terrific battle of Wilson's Creek. Lyon was at Springfield and Price and McCulloch were pressing him. He felt that his only chance was to turn and fight. The armies met nine miles southeast of Springfield. A hill that rises from the ford of Wilson's Creek was the scene of action, and this has since been known as "Bloody Hill." Of the 5,400 Union men who took part in the fight 1,317 officers and men were killed, wounded or missing. General Lyon was killed, and every Union brigadier-general and colonel engaged on Bloody Hill was either killed or wounded, and the defeated Union forces were led off by a major. The total loss to the Confederate and state troops was 1,230 killed, wounded and missing.

Price pleaded with McCulloch to follow up the attack, but McCulloch argued that he was a Confederate officer, in com-

mand of a Confederate army; that he had been stationed in Arkansas to defend the Indian Territory; that it was his duty to defend, not to attack; that he had aided in repelling General Lyon because Lyon was about to invade the Indian Territory; that having done this, his mission was ended. Price was unable to alone follow the retreating troops, and before he could undertake it the Union army had increased to many times larger than his own.

CHAPTER IV.

SECOND SESSION OF THE CONVENTION.—HAMILTON R. GAMBLE MADE GOVERNOR, WILLIARD P. HALL, SR., LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR, AND MORDECAI OLIVER SECRETARY OF STATE.—BATTLE OF LEXINGTON.—GOVERNOR JACKSON CONVENES THE LEGISLATURE AT NEOSHO.—SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES TO THE CONFEDERATE STATES CONGRESS.—BATTLE OF PEA RIDGE.—PRICE'S RAID.—LAWRENCE MASSACRE AND ORDER NO. 11.—McNEILL AT PALMYRA AND ANDERSON AT CENTRALIA.

The convention which had met at St. Louis in March and adjourned subject to call, met at Jefferson City on July 22, 1861. General Robert Wilson of Andrew County, who at that time lived on his farm at "Jimtown," three miles northeast of St. Joseph, was elected president in the place of Sterling Price. The convention declared the offices of governor, lieutenant-governor and secretary of state vacant, and selected Hamilton R. Gamble of St. Louis to succeed Governor Jackson. Willard P. Hall of St. Joseph was elected to succeed Lieutenant-Governor Reynolds, and Mordecai Oliver of Springfield was appointed secretary of state. The convention also declared vacant the seats in the legislature, and for seventeen months it exercised the duties of the general assembly.

The next battle of importance in Missouri was fought at Lexington, where Price besieged General James Mulligan, commanding three thousand men, one-half from Missouri and the other half comprising the "Irish Brigade" of Chicago. After fifty-two hours, Mulligan surrendered.

Governor Jackson issued a proclamation at New Madrid declaring the independence of Missouri. He also issued a call for the general assembly to meet October 1, 1861, at Neosho. The legislature, or a part of it, at least, met and declared that Missouri had withdrawn from the Union. John B. Clark, Sr., and R. L. Y. Peyton were elected senators to the Confederate States senate. Senator Peyton was succeeded by George G. Vest. Eight members of the lower house were also elected. The Confederate Congress, which met at Richmond, Va., recognized these proceedings and admitted Missouri to the Confederacy. But the United States Congress recognized the convention in all future dealings, and thus Missouri remained a Union state.

Governor Jackson went south after this and died at Little Rock, December 6, 1862. Thomas C. Reynolds, his lieutenant-governor, continued to act, however, in dispute of the right of

Governor Gamble, until the election of Governor Fletcher in 1864. But he was governor in name only. He was killed by falling through an elevator shaft at St. Louis, March 30, 1887.

The next important battle in which Missouri figured was at Pea Ridge, in Arkansas, about thirty miles from Cassville, Mo. Price, McCulloch and Pike had a combined force of 20,000 men, who were placed under the command of General Van Dorn. The Federal forces were under Curtis. It was a desperate battle, skillfully fought on both sides, and continued for three days. Victory finally fell to the Federals. Over thirteen hundred men were killed or wounded on either side. Generals McCulloch, McIntosh and Slack fell, and Price was wounded. After this engagement, which opened early in the morning, March 16, 1862, and closed on March 19, Price, with about 5,000 state troops, joined the Confederacy and his command was transferred to the east side of the Mississippi.

The slaughter of ten innocent men by General John H. McNeill at Palmyra on October 8, 1862, is classed as one of the horrors of the civil war. Some of the troops of Colonel Porter, a Secessionist marauder, had captured one Andrew Allsman, a disabled Union soldier, and doubtless put him to death. McNeill notified Porter that if Allsman was not safely returned in ten days he (McNeill) would put to death ten citizens of that section whom he held in captivity at Palmyra upon the suspicion that they were in sympathy with the South. Allsman was not returned and, at the end of ten days, McNeill fulfilled his threat. The ten victims, some of whom were connected with the best families of the community, were taken from the Palmyra prison and placed in wagons, each man sitting upon his coffin. Half a mile east of town they were shot, each victim kneeling beside his coffin.

It is not within the scope of this brief history to present the details of the numerous clashes at arms during the war period; however, some mention of the sacking of Lawrence and General Ewing's consequent "Order No. 11." should be made. But a short digression is necessary.

The border troubles that arose over the Kansas question are well remembered by older people who lived in Platte and Buchanan counties before the war. Both the North and South wished to be triumphant in Kansas, and the Missourians who desired that Kansas be admitted as a slave-holding state took an active part in regulating the affairs of the neighboring territory. In order to carry the state for abolition, Massachusetts sent out men under the auspices of "Emigration Aid Companies," "Kansas Societies," and the like. These men brought more guns and powder than agricultural implements. Missouri formed "Blue Lodges," to counteract the Massachusetts companies.

In 1855 the pro-slavery party elected the territorial legislature in Kansas, and it was charged that 5,000 Missourians had crossed the border from Buchanan, Platte, Jackson and Cass counties, and voted. As a counter charge, the pro-slavery people claimed that a company of immigrants had voted at Lawrence on the day of their arrival. The election of six pro-slavery candidates was contested and sustained by the territorial governor, who gave certificates to the anti-slavery candidates.

But the anti-slavery men were still dissatisfied. They refused to acknowledge the authority of the legislature or to obey its laws. Active troubles now began, and the contending factions soon learned to rob each other, burn each other's houses, and destroy property. The inhabitants of Missouri border counties now began to suffer severely also.

John Brown of Osawatomie instigated raids and headed some of them himself. In one of these raids, made in December of 1858, he carried off eleven slaves. The general assembly of Missouri appropriated $30,000 to be used by Governor Stewart as he thought best. He offered $3,000 as a reward for John Brown, all of whose raids into Missouri were marked with blood.

The efforts put forth by the legislature, the governors of Missouri and Kansas, and the United States army, partially quieted the "Jayhawkers," as these marauders were called, for two years, but in 1860 they broke out afresh, under the leadership of a desperado named James Montgomery. Governor Stewart sent General Frost with 7,000 men to the border, but General Harney of the United States army had preceded him.

Historians declare that the depredations of the "Jayhawkers" and other raids of Kansas troops and freebooters into Missouri led to the destruction of Lawrence by Quantrell and his band of guerrillas on August 21, 1863. Stores, banks, hotels and dwellings were sacked and burned, and one hundred and eighty-three men, women and children were killed. It was a most cruel and inhuman deed, even in warfare.

General Ewing, stationed at Kansas City, issued Order No. 11 on August 25, four days after the massacre. All persons then living in Jackson, Cass and Bates counties, except those dwelling in the principal towns, were ordered to remove from their places of abode within fifteen days. Those who could show that they were loyal were permitted to remove to the military stations or to Kansas. All others were to remove entirely out of these counties. Their grain and hay were to be taken to the nearest military station, where the owners were to be granted certificates showing their value, and all produce not so delivered was to be destroyed. The whole district soon presented a scene of desolation. In 1866, when the inhabitants returned, they found their homes destroyed by fire, with nothing left but the blackened

chimneys. Thus did General Ewing square up accounts for the sacking of Lawrence.

That Missouri was the scene of much bloodshed during the war is easily proven by the fact that 450 battles and skirmishes were fought from the time of the capture of Liberty Arsenal until the end of the great struggle. It is estimated that Missouri furnished to Governor Jackson and the Confederate service about 40,000 men. The number of Union enlistments reaches nearly 110,000, of which number about 8,000 were negroes.

That feature of the war in Missouri known as Price's raid began in September of 1864. Price entered Southeastern Missouri with a large force and was making for Jefferson City, where the Union forces from every part of the state were rapidly concentrated to defend the capital. Price evaded Jefferson City, upon information of the formidable resistance to be made there, and moved toward Boonville and Lexington, hotly pursued by Generals A. J. Smith and Pleasanton. At Independence he was defeated by Pleasanton and retreated to Arkansas.

The Centralia massacre, which also lives in history as a war horror, occurred on September 27, 1864. Bill Anderson, a notorious guerilla and a band of two hundred cut-throats, surrounded a train aboard which were some twenty-five Federal soldiers who were on furlough and unarmed. Anderson's men opened fire and the soldiers made desperate efforts to escape, leaving the cars and running, only to be shot down. Some sought protection under the depot platform, others in outhouses and barns, but the ferocious guerillas permitted none to escape. On the same day, in a battle between Major Johnson's forces and Anderson's band, sixty-eight of Johnson's men were killed. Johnson's forces scattered and were pursued, seventy more being killed by the guerillas before these terrors ended their bloody work. A month later Anderson was killed in Ray County.

CHAPTER V.

LAST SESSION OF THE CONVENTION.—DEATH OF GOVERNOR GAMBLE.—WILLARD P. HALL AS GOVERNOR. THOMAS C. FLETCHER AS GOVERNOR.—THE DRAKE CONSTITUTION AND TEST OATH.—GOVERNOR McCLURG.—THE LIBERAL REPUBLICANS.—B. GRATZ BROWN FOR GOVERNOR.—REPEAL OF THE TEST OATH.—GOVERNORS WOODSON AND HARDIN.—THE NEW CONSTITUTION.—GOVERNORS PHELPS, CRITTENDEN, MARMADUKE, MOREHOUSE, FRANCIS, STONE AND STEPHENS.

The famous "convention of '61" met for the last time in June of 1863, and among other work, passed an ordinance providing for the emancipation of slaves after July 4, 1870. This was accomplished earlier, however, by another method, as will be seen below. The convention adjourned sine die on July 1, 1863.

Governor Gamble died on January 21, 1864, and Lieutenant-Governor Hall of St. Joseph became governor and served about one year, when he yielded to Thomas C. Fletcher, the first Republican governor elected in Missouri, who had received 71,531 votes, over Thomas L. Price, Democrat. Mr. Fletcher was born in Jefferson County, Mo., January 22, 1827, and was serving as brigadier-general under Sherman in Georgia when elected. At the same time Francis Rodman of St. Joseph was elected secretary of state. He served six years.

At the election of 1864 the people had voted for a convention to amend the constitution, and sixty-six delegates were elected. These delegates met in the Merchants' Library Hall at St. Louis in January of 1865, and adopted what is known in history as the "Drake Constitution," from the fact that Charles D. Drake was the leading spirit in the convention and practically the author of the law.

This convention, on January 11, 1865, passed an ordinance abolishing slavery. Governor Fletcher did not wait to have this ratified, but on the following day issued a proclamation that "henceforth and forever no person shall be subject to any abridgement of liberty, except such as the law shall prescribe for the common good, or know any master but God."

The Drake constitution soon became odious because of the test oath, which declared that no person should vote or hold office who had "ever" engaged in hostilities or given aid, comfort, countenance or support to persons engaged in hostilities against the government of the United States," etc. By this oath one-half of the people were prevented from voting until 1872,

and many more doubtless would have been had they told the truth.

In 1868 Joseph McClurg of Camden County, Republican, defeated John S. Phelps of Springfield, Democrat, for governor, by 19,000, out of a total vote of 145,000. E. O. Stannard of St. Louis was elected lieutenant-governor. Under the Drake constitution the term of office of the governor was two years.

In 1870 an effort was made to have a new constitution. The Republican party was divided upon the subject into "Liberal" and "Radical" factions. The liberal element believed in repealing the test oath, and the radicals declared for its perpetuation. The latter nominated Governor McClurg for re-election. The liberals withdrew from the convention and nominated B. Grazt Brown of St. Louis, who was elected by 41,000 majority. The people voted to repeal the test oath by a majority of 111,000. At the same time the Liberal Republicans and Democrats obtained control of the legislature. As soon as possible all obnoxious laws were repealed and all disabilities removed, as a result of which the vote in 1872 was 112,276 greater than in 1870.

When confidence had been restored an era of prosperity followed, and on every side the people began to efface the traces of the war. The Liberal Republican movement, which began in 1870, continued until 1874. In 1872 the Liberal Republicans and Democrats met in convention at Jefferson City. The Democrats nominated Silas Woodson of St. Joseph for governor; also candidates for treasurer, attorney-general and auditor and eight of the presidential electors. The Liberals nominated Charles P. Johnson of St. Louis for lieutenant-governor, candidates for secretary of state, register of the land office and seven presidential electors. This ticket was elected and the entire electoral vote cast for Greeley and Brown. The regular Republicans had nominated John B. Henderson for governor.

In 1874 the Democrats nominated Charles H. Hardin of Audrain County for governor and Norman J. Colman of St. Louis for lieutenant-governor. The Republicans did not make any nominations, but William Gentry of Petis County was nominated by the People's party, which had grown out of the Granger movement. This party was organized on the basis that nearly all of the financial troubles that followed the crash of 1873 were due to bad legislation, and its mission was to unite farmers, laborers and mechanics in an attempt to repeal all bad laws and make good ones. But Governor Woodson's administration had forestalled the Grangers by passing the desired laws and cutting down expenses. Governor Hardin was elected by a majority of 37,463.

At the same election the people voted for a constitutional convention. This convention met at the Capitol May 15, 1875.

The new constitution went into operation on January 1, 1876. By this constitution the terms of the governor and nearly all of the state officers and many of the county officers were lengthened to four years.

In 1876 John S. Phelps of Springfield and Henry C. Brockmeyer of St. Louis were elected governor and lieutenant-governor by 50,000 majority over G. A. Finkelnburg of St. Louis. At the same time Colonel Elijah Gates of St. Joseph was elected state treasurer.

In 1880 Thomas T. Crittenden, Democrat, of Warrensburg, was elected governor, over D. P. Dyer of St. Louis, Republican. Robert A. Campbell of St. Louis was elected lieutenant-governor. Under the last Cleveland administration ex-Governor Crittenden was consul-general at the City of Mexico. It was during his administration that the James and Younger bandits, who had made Western Missouri infamous for some years, were broken up, Jesse James being killed in St. Joseph by Bob and Charley Ford, who were soon afterward pardoned by the governor.

In 1884 John S. Marmaduke of St. Louis, Democrat, was elected governor, and Albert P. Morehouse of Maryville was elected lieutenant-governor. The Republicans nominated ex-Congressman Nicholas Ford, who at that time lived in Andrew County.

Governor Marmaduke died on December 28, 1887, and Lieutenant-Governor Morehouse served the unexpired term. Ex-Governor Morehouse committed suicide at his home in Maryville September 31, 1891.

In 1888 David R. Francis, Democrat, of St. Louis was elected over E. E. Kimball of Nevada. Stephen Claycomb of Jasper County was elected lieutenant-governor. William J. Stone, Democrat, of Nevada, was elected governor in 1892, over Major William Warner of Kansas City, Republican. John B. O'Meara of St. Louis was elected lieutenant-governor. Lon V. Stephens of Boonville, who had been state treasurer under Governors Francis and Stone, was elected governor in 1896, over Robert E. Lewis of Henry County. August H. Bolte of Franklin County was elected lieutenant-governor. Alexander M. Dockery was elected governor in 1900; Joseph W. Folk in 1904; Herbert S. Hadley in 1908, Elliott W. Major in 1912, and Frederick D. Gardner in 1916.

CHAPTER VI.

MISSOURI'S REPRESENTATIVES IN THE UNITED STATES SENATE FROM BENTON AND BARTON TO THE PRESENT.—FIRST MEMBERS OF THE LOWER HOUSE OF CONGRESS.—MEMBERS WHO HAVE REPRESENTED THE DISTRICT TO WHICH BUCHANAN COUNTY WAS ATTACHED FROM HALL (1846) TO COCHRAN (1898). —STATE SENATORS FROM VARIOUS DISTRICTS TO WHICH BUCHANAN COUNTY HAS BEEN ATTACHED SINCE 1840.—BUCHANAN COUNTY'S REPRESENTATIVES IN THE LEGISLATURE FROM 1840 TO THE PRESENT TIME.

The first two men to represent Missouri in the United States senate were David Barton of Howard County, who served 1820-30, and Thomas H. Benton of St. Louis, who served 1820-51. They were elected by the legislature, which met in its first session at St. Louis in September of 1820, but were not permitted to take their seats until 1821, because the state was not yet formally admitted into the Union.

Mr. Barton was a native of Tennessee and a soldier of the war of 1812. He was quite a popular public man in the state when elected, but during his last term lost prestige because of his preference of John Quincy Adams over General Jackson for the presidency, General Jackson being a great favorite with the Missourians. He was stricken with insanity and died at Boonville in 1837.

Senator Benton was not elected without opposition, because of a difficulty he had had with Andrew Jackson, who attempted to horsewhip Benton in the streets of Nashville, and was shot in the arm by Benton's brother. Benton afterwards killed Charles Lucas, at that time United States attorney for Missouri, in a duel, and was regarded by many as a murderer. He served thirty years, and became unpopular because of his domineering disposition. He represented St. Louis one term in Congress in 1852-54, and was defeated for re-election by Luther M. Kennett, a Know-Nothing. He then made an independent effort to become governor, and was also defeated. He was a man of strong character; in fact, one of the remarkable men of the nation.

Senator Barton was succeeded by Alexander Buckner of Cape Girardeau, who served 1830-33, and died of cholera. Governor Dunklin appointed Dr. Lewis F. Linn of Ste. Genevieve to the vacancy, who served until 1843, and died in office. Dr. Linn was a most useful man to Missouri, and it was largely through his efforts that the Platte purchase was made. Upon his death Governor Reynolds appointed Judge David R. Atchison of Platte

County, who was at that time judge of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit and who held court regularly in Robidoux's store and at the house of Richard Hill, in Buchanan County.

Senator Benton was succeeded in 1851 by Henry S. Geyer of St. Louis. Senator Geyer was a Marylander, who came to Missouri in 1815, and who was speaker of the House for the first five years after the admission of Missouri into the Union. He was a famous lawyer and did much to systematize the Missouri code. He was the only avowed Whig ever elected to the United States senate from Missouri. He died in 1859.

In 1855 the legislature balloted in vain for a successor to Senator Atchison, and the election went over to the next session. In 1857 there were successors to both Senators Atchison and Geyer to choose. Governor Trusten Polk and James S. Green of Lewis County were elected.

Governor Polk was a native of Delaware and a graduate of Yale College. In 1862 he was expelled for disloyalty, and died in St. Louis in 1876. James S. Green was a Virginian, and a strong state's rights man. He was a powerful debater and had few peers. He, like Polk, was expelled in 1861 for secession utterances.

Waldo P. Johnson of Osceola, St. Clair County, was elected to succeed Senator Green. He cast his lot with the South and resigned his seat soon after taking it.

Lieutenant-Governor Hall of St. Joseph, who was acting for Governor Gamble, appointed J. B. Henderson of Pike County and Robert Wilson of Andrew to fill the vacancies. In November of 1863 the legislature elected Mr. Henderson to serve until March 4, 1869, and elected B. Gratz Brown for a term expiring March 4, 1867. Senator Brown was elected governor in 1870 and served two years. In 1872 he was a candidate for Vice-President with Horace Greeley.

Charles D. Drake, the author of the Drake constitution, was elected to succeed Senator Brown. He served until 1871, when he resigned to become judge of the court of claims at Washington, and was succeeded by Daniel F. Jewett of St. Louis, who served one year, and who was in turn succeeded by General Frank P. Blair, who served out the remainder of the term, until 1873.

Carl Schurz was elected to succeed Senator Henderson for a term of six years, 1869-75. He was succeeded by Francis M. Cockrell of Johnson County, who succeeded himself continuously until 1905, when he was succeeded by William A. Warner. James A. Reed followed Warner in 1911 and is still serving.

Lewis V. Bogy of St. Louis was elected to succeed Senator Blair and served 1873-77, dying in office. Governor Phelps appointed David H. Armstrong of St. Louis to serve until the legislature met. The legislature elected General James Shields of Carroll County for the unexpired term, and GeGorge Graham Vest of Warrensburg for the full term. Vest was succeeded in 1903 by William J. Stone.

* * *

Up to 1845 the congressmen from Missouri were elected at large. The last member from this section under the old system was James M. Hughes of Clay County, a nephew of General Andrew S. Hughes.

The first man to be elected when the state was divided into districts was Willard P. Hall. This was then, as now, the Fourth Congressional district, though it has undergone several transformations since the first organization.

General Hall was the regular Democratic nominee in 1846, and against him was pitted James H. Birch of Clinton County, a brilliant man, but one who vacillated politically. Judge Birch was the independent candidate. General Hall, who was plain Willard in those days, left the campaign to take care of itself and went with General Doniphan's expedition to Mexico. The people liked his spirit and patriotism, and elected him in his absence.

After serving two terms, General Hall was succeeded by Mordecai Oliver, a Whig, who was then living at Richmond. Judge Oliver was afterward secretary of state, and in 1884-6 served as police judge in St. Joseph.

In the Thirty-fifth and Thirty-sixth Congresses (1857-61) the Fourth District was represented by General James Craig, Democrat, of St. Joseph. Judge Elijah H. Norton of Platte County, Democrat, succeeded General Craig and served one term.

The state had meanwhile been redistricted and St. Joseph was in the Seventh Congressional District. General Ben F. Loan of St. Joseph, Republican, represented the district in the Thirty-eighth, Thirty-ninth and Fortieth Congresses (1863-69).

Judge Isaac C. Parker, Republican, of St. Joseph represented the district in the Forty-second and Forty-third Congresses (1871-75).

Judge Parker was succeeded by Judge David Rea, Democrat, of Andrew County, who served two terms (1875-79). Hon. Nicholas Ford, Greenback, of Andrew County, succeeded Judge Rea, defeating General Craig, and served two terms (1879-83).

In 1881 the state was again redistricted and the entire Platte Purchase—Platte, Buchanan, Andrew, Holt, Nodaway and Atchison counties—formed into the Fourth Congressional District. The first man to represent the new district was the late James N. Burnes, Democrat, who defeated Morris A. Reed of St. Joseph, Republican, and Nathaniel Sisson of Maryville, Greenback-Labor, in November of 1882, by a majority of 569. In 1884 Colonel Burnes defeated Judge Henry S. Kelly, Republican, then of Andrew County, by 2,176 votes. In 1886 Colonel Burnes defeated H. R. W. Hartwig of St. Joseph, Republican, by 3,177 votes.

Colonel Burnes died January 24, 1889, at Washington. He had yet to serve his unexpired term in the Fiftieth Congress. Governor Francis ordered a special election to be held February 21, 1889, to fill the vacancy in the Fiftieth Congress and also for the election of a successor to Colonel Burnes in the Fifty-first Congress. The Republicans nominated Francis M. Posegate of St. Joseph for both places. The Democrats nominated Charles F. Booher of Savannah for the short term and Robert P. C. Wilson of Platte County for the long term. Captain Posegate was defeated by 618 votes. Mr. Booher served only about two weeks.

In 1890 Mr. Wilson defeated Nicholas Ford, Republican, of Andrew County, and W. H. Whipple, Populist, of Buchanan County, receiving a majority of 1,118. In 1892 Daniel D. Burnes, Democrat, defeated George C. Crowther, Republican, of St. Joseph, and J. B. Wilcox, Populist, of Andrew County, receiving a majority of 1,259. In 1894 Mr. Crowther defeated William C. Ellison of Maryville, Democrat, and William S. Missemer of St. Joseph, Populist, his majority being 1,661. In 1896 Charles F. Cochran of St. Joseph, Democrat, defeated Mr. Crowther, his plurality being 3,829. Frank B. Fulkerson, of St. Joseph, was elected in 1904, and Charles F. Booher, of Savannah, the present incumbent, in 1906.

CHAPTER VII.

THE STATE CAPITAL—SOME FIRST THINGS IN MISSOURI—LEWIS AND CLARK—NEW MADRID EARTHQUAKE—DANIEL BOONE—CHOLERA—IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT—GASCONADE BRIDGE DISASTER—RAILROAD BONDS AND STATE AID—IOWA BOUNDARY LINE—"IMPERIAL MISSOURI."

The first seat of government of the State of Missouri was at St. Louis. In 1821 the capital was changed to St. Charles, but this was not satisfactory, for immigration was pushing to the broad prairies of the west. By a revision of the constitution it was provided that the capital be located on the Missouri River, within forty miles of the mouth of the Osage. A commission was appointed and after examining many localities, they decided upon the spot where Jefferson City now stands. The town was named after Thomas Jefferson, the third President of the United States. The capitol was located upon four sections of land donated by the United States government. It was large enough to meet the needs of the state at the time, and stood unil 1837, when it was destroyed by fire. The legislature met in the new state building in 1826. The oldest portion of the second capitol was erected after the destruction of the original building. This structure was destroyed by fire February 5, 1911. A new state capitol costing $3,500,000 is now built.

* * *

The following are some of the first things that occurred in Missouri: The first marriage took place April 20, 1766, at St. Louis. The first baptism was performed in May, 1776, at St. Louis. The first house of worship (Catholic) was erected in 1775 at St. Louis. The first ferry was established in 1805 on the Mississippi River at St. Louis. The first newspaper was established in 1808. This was the Missouri Gazette, and the St. Louis Republic represents the perpetuation of this pioneer in journalism. The first postoffice was established at St. Louis in 1804, with Rufus Easton as postmaster. The first Protestant church (Baptist) was erected at Ste. Genevieve in 1806. The first bank was established at St. Louis in 1814. It was called the Bank of St. Louis. The first college was built at St. Louis in 1814. The first market house was opened at St. Louis in 1811. The first steamboat on the Upper Mississippi River was the General Pike, which landed at St. Louis in 1817. The first steamboat that came up the Missouri River was the Independence, which touched at Franklin in 1819. The first court house was erected at St. Louis in 1823. The first line of telegraph reached St. Louis December 20, 1847.

Lewis and Clark, the explorers, began their ascent of the Missouri River in May of 1804. Captain Meriwether Lewis and William Clark were accompanied by forty-three men and a servant. The party stopped off frequently and explored the surrounding country, collected information concerning the Indians, the soil, the tributaries to the rivers, etc.

* * *

The earthquake that destroyed New Madrid occurred after midnight of December 16, 1811. By this terrific convulsion vast tracts of land were plunged into the Mississippi River, large lakes were made in an instant, trees split in the middle, great fissures were formed where the earth had burst, and hundreds of them remained for years afterward. After the earthquake the country about New Madrid exhibited a melancholy aspect. Congress enacted laws permitting the earthquake sufferers to locate the same amount of lands in other parts of the territory, but owing to their ignorance of the ways of the world many of them were cheated out of their claims by unscrupulous speculators.

* * *

Daniel Boone, the famous pioneer, came to Missouri in 1794 and settled forty-five miles north of St. Louis in what is now Warren County. He spent most of his latter days with his son, Major Nathan Boone, in St. Charles County. He died September 26, 1820, aged eighty-eight years. In 1845 both his body and that of his wife were disinterred and taken to Frankfort, Ky. Boone had two sons, Nathan and Daniel M., who, like their father, were noted for their courage and enterprise. They were among the first to manufacture salt, building furnaces at what was afterward called Boone's Lick, in what is now Howard County. Wonderful salt springs existed there, and the Boones brought kettles in which the water was evaporated and the salt retained. The country about Boone's Lick was settled rapidly when the fame of the salt spring and the beauty of the locality became known.

* * *

Asiatic cholera appeared at St. Louis in 1832, and for a time the death rate averaged thirty-two per day. When it finally disappeared a reckoning showed that one out of every twelve of the population had fallen a victim. In the spring of 1849 it appeared again, and between April and August, 4,060 persons died. In 1850 and 1851, and again in 1867, there was cholera at various points along the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers. St. Joseph had but little of it, while Weston and other points farther down suffered more severely. Those who were crossing the plains and Indians along the trails fell victims in large numbers.

* * *

Imprisonment for debt was permissible under the statutes

of Missouri until 1843. The enforcement of this worked great hardships and created much dissatisfaction. There were but few things that the sheriff could not sell for debt, and if there was not enough to satisfy the avaricious creditor, he could have the unfortunate debtor cast into prison. The act abolishing the law was written by Governor Reynolds. It contained but six words: "Imprisonment for debt is hereby abolished." Yet those few words brought great joy to all but the unscrupulous creditor.

* * *

On November 1, 1855, there occurred the first railroad wreck in the history of Missouri. The completion of the Missouri Pacific railroad from St. Louis to Jefferson City was being celebrated and an excursion train of nine cars crowded with notables was speeding to the capital. The bridge spanning the Gasconade River was not completed and a temporary scaffolding had been erected. A furious storm was raging while the train was crossing this bridge, and, amid the fiercest lightning and thunder, the timbers of the temporary structure parted and several cars went down. Forty-three lives were lost and many persons were injured.

* * *

The Drake constitution permitted counties to subscribe any sum of money to aid in building railroads, and county courts were authorized to issue bonds binding the county for the payment of these subscriptions wherever two-thirds of the qualified voters should assent thereto. These courts, in some cases, were characterless or ignorant men, and the "qualified" voters were not the people who owned property and who had to shoulder the burden. Bonds to the amount of over $15,000,000 were issued by various counties. In some instances the roads were not built, only a few miles being graded. But the bonds were marketed in New York and passed into the hands of the "innocent purchaser" as soon as possible. The county courts of Lafayette, Cass, Knox and St. Clair Counties refused to pay such bonds at maturity, but the United States court held that they were legally issued and must be paid. The people of Cass and St. Clair Counties were particularly stubborn in their opposition, and are to this day. County judges are firm upon this issue and cheerfully go to jail rather than levy taxes for the payment of these bonds.

* * *

At different times prior to the war the state had granted aid to various railroad companies by issuing bonds to the amount of $23,701,000. For this aid the companies agreed to pay interest. During and soon after the war the Missouri Pacific, the Iron Mountain, the North Missouri, and what was then the Kansas City, St. Joseph & Council Bluffs road, now the Burlington system, from St. Joseph to Weston, were sold for non-payment of

interest on these bonds. The entire debt at the time of the sale was over $31,000,000, and the state realized from the various sales only about $8,000,000, thus leaving a deficit of $23,000,000, which the state had to pay, besides several millions in interest.

* * *

The contest over the boundary line between Iowa and Missouri, which was settled by the supreme court of the United States in 1845, was due to a mistake on the part of John Sullivan, the United States surveyor, who ran the lines. Missouri claimed that the northern border should be a parallel of the latitude which passed through the rapids of the Des Moines River, and Iowa claimed it should be a line which passed through the rapids of the Missouri River, some twenty miles south. Unfriendly and revengeful feelings grew out of the dispute between the people who resided on the borders. Sullivan, the surveyor, began on a meridian one hundred miles north of Kansas City, and, instead of running due east, varied to the north, having varied four miles when he reached the Des Moines River. The United States had recognized Sullivan's survey in a number of Indian treaties, and now held that it should be forever the dividing line, and Missouri lost a strip of territory ten miles wide from the northern line.

* * *

Having briefly sketched the history of Missouri from its beginning, it will be appropriate to quote from the 1915 Report of Labor Commissioner Fitzpatrick as to the present condition of the state:

"The resources and advantages which nature has so freely scattered about in Missouri with practically half the large area south of the Missouri River still to be closely settled and developed, makes it the leading state of the Union for opportunities open to manufacturers, capitalists, farmers, dairymen, miners, horticulturists, live stock and poultry raisers and timbermen.

"With two-fifths of the state still open for development and Missouri already ranking first among all states for its annual poultry production, third in corn, seventh in wheat, first for both lead and zinc, ninth for building stone, first in manufactured plug tobacco, first in cadmiun, first for red gum cooperage, first for tripoli, first for barytes, first in corn-cob pipes, fourth in mineral paints, fifth in the manufacture of lime, seventh in clay products, seventh in portland cement, seventh in sand and gravel, and second for mules, there is no limit to the future prosperity of the commonwealth and its inhabitants.

"Among the other commodities Missouri holds high rank for in annual production are: Shoes and boots, walnut timber, watermelons, strawberries, tomatoes, big red apples, Elberta peaches, flour, feed, meal, cooperage, packing house products, malt liquor (beer), street and railway cars, small fruit, brick

and tiling, canned goods, live stock, frogs, fresh water fish, nursery products, sycamore lumber, railroad ties, sand and gravel, glass, natural mineral waters, mushrooms, red gum and maple lumber, honey and beeswax, granite and other building stone, pearl buttons, printing and publishing, furs, clothing, drugs, chemicals and bakery products.

"Located between the 36th and 41st parallels of north latitude and between the 89th and 96th meridians of west longitude, Missouri is a part of the temperate zone in which the work of the world is done. Its climate conduces to health and physical strength. The Bureau of Ethnology of the federal government has pointed out that the native Missourians are stronger and taller than the native citizens of any other state. The average mean temperature of Missouri, 54 degrees, is higher than the average mean temperature in any other state of the same latitud eastward.

"Health in Missouri is promoted by the pure air and bright sunshine and by the good water with which the state is abundantly supplied. Vital statistics taken from the federal census make plain that the claim for the health feature of Missouri is not an idle boast. The annual death rate in the United States per thousand population, is 16.3, while in Missouri the annual rate is only 12.2. To express it differently, one-third more deaths occur annually in the other states of the Union, in proportion to the population, than in Missouri. While the annual birth rate in the United States exceeds the annual death rate 11 per cent, the excess in Missouri is 13.8 per cent. Missourians are born more numerously and die less rapidly than the citizens of the other states."

The Platte Purchase

CHAPTER I.

ORIGINAL WESTERN BOUNDARY—PLATTE COUNTY OCCUPIED BY INDIANS—THE WHITE MAN NEEDED IT — MUSTER DAY AT DALE'S FARM — GENERAL HUGHES' SPEECH AND ITS EFFECT—THE PURCHASE MADE—CONSIDERATIONS AND STIPULATIONS OF THE TREATY—EXIT THE INDIAN, ENTER THE WHITE MAN.

When Missouri was admitted to the Union the western line of the state passed from the corner of Arkansas directly north through the mouth of the Kansas River to the Iowa line. This left a section embracing what are now Platte, Buchanan, Andrew, Holt, Nodaway and Atchison Counties in the Indian territory, of which both Kansas and Nebraska formed a part.

This section of the territory, between the Missouri River and the west line of Missouri, was ceded to the Sac-and-Fox and Ioway Indians, in the treaty of Prairie du Chien, ratified in 1830, in exchange for certain lands in Wisconsin. These two tribes, and also a band of Omahaws and a few Sioux, located along the banks of the larger streams in the upper part of the strip, while the lower portion was occupied by the Pottawatomies, who were removed from Indiana in 1833, after the Black Hawk war.

The government had places of supply at Rock-house, near what is now the town of Agency, in Buchanan County, and at Beverly, in Platte, and General Andrew S. Hughes was the government agent. General Hughes made his headquarters with Joseph Robidoux in the Blacksnake hills, going among the Indians only on issue days. He had warehouses near the Ford and at Beverly, but these were in charge of guards.

The Indians were particularly undesirable neighbors to the people of the old Missouri border. They were drunken, lazy, quarrelsome, and altogether unworthy to ccupy so valuable and so beautiful a territory. So argued the white man, who believed the heritage to be his, and who went systematically to work to secure it.

It was customary in those times to have militia muster on certain days, and so it came to pass that muster was held at the farm of Weakly Dale, near Liberty, in Clay County, in April of 1835. At these musters there were speeches, and measures for the general welfare were publicly debated. The Indian neigh-

bor was the theme of a speech by General Hughes on this particular occasion, and the effect of his oration was immediate.

Recent correspondence between Major John Dougherty of Clay County, then an Indian agent, and Senator Linn, in reference to coveted territory, was also read. Major Dougherty had shown how the formation of the boundary had inconvenienced persons settling along the border, in what are now DeKalb, Gentry or Worth Counties, from reaching the river (then the only mode of transportation) without traveling over a hundred miles to get below the mouth of the Kansas River, when the Missouri could be reached at twenty, thirty or fifty miles at Robidoux's or Weston, which were the most important river points in the Platte country.

The many streams capable of furnishing water and power, the rich soil, valuable forests, luxuriant grasses, wild fruits, thousands of wild flowers, well-filled bee trees, flocks of wild deer and turkey, all had been voiced aloud until the old Kentuckians, Tennesseeans and North Carolina forming that military array, resolved that they must have the strip without delay. In fact, they started to obtain it in Western style, resolving that they ought and would have it, and E. M. Samuel, David R. Atchison, Alexander W. Doniphan, W. T. Wood and Peter H. Burnett were appointed a committee to obtain it. But some of those same muster-men, being doubtful about the efficacy of negotiation and red-tape, moved into the new country that fall. The government had them removed by soldiers, but they went back again, and like the Sooners of the later days, kept themselves in evidence so as hasten the inevitable.

The result was that on September 17, 1836, William Clark of the famous expedition of Lewis and Clark, of 1804, then agent for all of the Indians west of the Mississippi River, held a council with the Sacs-and-Foxes and Ioways at Fort Leavenworth, and made a treaty whereby the Platte County passed into the hands of the white man.

The Indians received $7,500 in cash and four hundred sections of land in what are now Doniphan and Brown Counties, Kansas. The government agreed to erect five comfortable houses for the Ioways and three for the Sacs-and-Foxes; to provide for each tribe an interpreter, a farmer, a blacksmith, and a schoolmaster; to break up two hundred acres of ground for each tribe and to furnish each with a ferryboat; also to provide rations for one year and agricultural implements for five years.

The treaty was signed by William Clark, superintendent of Indian affairs, for the United States. For the Ioway Indians it was signed by the following chiefs and braves: Mo-hos-ca (or White Cloud), Nau-che-ning (or No Heart), Wa-che-mo-ne (or

the Orator), Ne-o-mo-ne (or Raining Cloud), No-wan-thaw-chu (Hair Shedder), Man-haw-ka (Bunch of Arrows), Cha-tau-the-ne (Big Bull), Man-o-mo-ne (Pumpkin), Con-gu (Plumb), Wau-thaw-ca-be-chu (One that Eats Rats), Cha-tea-thau (Buffalo Bull), Cha-ta-ha-ra-wa-re (Foreign Buffalo).

The following signed for the Sacs-and-Foxes: Ca-ha-qua (Red Fox), Pe-shaw-ca (Bear), Pe-cau-ma (Deer), Ne-bosh-ca-na (Wolf), Ne-squi-in-a (Deer), Ne-saw-au-qua (Bear), Qua-co-ousi-si (Wolf), Suquil-la (Deer), As-ke-pa-ke-ka-as-a (Green Lake), Wa-pa-se (Swan), No-cha-tau-wa-ta-sa (Star), Can-ca-car-mack (Rock Bass), Sea-sa-ho (Sturgeon), Pe-a-chim-a-car-mack (Bald-Headed Eagle), Pe-a-chim-a-car-mack, Jr., (Bald-Headed Eagle).

The following citizens of Missouri signed as witnesses: S. W. Kearney, John Dougherty, A. S. Hughes, George R. H. Clark, William Duncan, Joseph V. Hamilton, Joseph Robidoux, Jr., William Bowman, Jeffry Dorion, Peter Constine, Jacques Mette, Louis M. Davidson.

Thus was the Platte Purchase made. The red man was told to move on, and resumed his pilgrimage toward the setting sun, and the white man promptly built his cabin where the Indian's tepee first had stood.

History of Holt County

CHAPTER I

THE TRANSITION FROM WIGWAM TO CABIN—COMING OF WHITE MAN EPOCHAL—EARLY SETTLERS AND WHERE THEY SETTLED—NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY—PRIMITIVE MODE OF LIVING BY THOSE WHO DID THE PIONEERING—EARLY DAY PASTIMES.

The transition from wigwam to cabin, from tomahawk to plowshare, from moccasin to boots, from savagery to civilization came not in one great enveloping swell of activity, sweeping everything before it like a mighty tidal wave. The transformation from wooded hills smiling in their virginity to fields of ripening corn; of broad, uninteresting prairies, useful only as a habitat for rattlesnakes and gophers, to pastures of fattening kine; from lakes and streams where only the Indians canoe was known, to waterways of service to man, was not accomplished over night.

These changes, which paved the way for the multiplied homes of future generations, came through the bravery, perseverance and hardihood of the pioneers. The men who faced death from savages, disease and even starvation are entitled to the credit for bringing into touch with civilization what was once a vast wilderness of no use to man and little practical benefit to the aborginee. Reclamation work it might be called.

Nearly four score years have passed since the white man first began to contest with the Indian for possession of the territory that is now known as Holt County. The coming of the white man was epochal; it marked the turning point in the affairs of this part of the world. It opened for development the richest, most productive section of the United States.

Naturally the Red man resented the invasion of the domain over which he had roamed decade after decade. Sullenly he watched the pale brother encroach upon what he considered his rightful territory. He resisted the oncoming civilization with more or less vigor and gave the white man some trouble before he finally moved on westward where he could continue his carefree existence as he was wont to do. Compared with other sections of the country, however, the change in ownership of the territory now comprising Holt County was comparatively peaceable. The Indians gave way without enacting the bloody scenes which marked the advent of the white man in other sections.

Viewing the situation from this date—three-quarters of a century afterward—one cannot blame the red man for fighting for his rights. According to all the laws of mankind the country was his by reason of long, undisputed possession. His race was as much the rightful owner of the soil as the white race is today. Who shall say, therefore, that he had not the right to protest, not only in words, but by resort to forceful means as well?

But the red man did not make use of the opportunities for development that surrounded him on every hand. He was an inconoclast and not a builder. His bent was toward demolition rather than construction. His indifference to the uses which could be made of those things which the God of Nature had placed within the grasp of His people was so at variance with the intent of the Creator that inevitably the aborigine was forced to give way to theindustrious, enerprising white man.

While we may well say it was wrong to deprive the Indian of his property without compensation, yet it must be borne in mind that that first inhabitants of the counry really made no claim of ownership. It was sufficient if he could roam the woods, the fields and the prairies, care-free and indifferent to the future; that was what he considered his right and when one locality displeased him he movevd to another. In his untutored mind that may have been his conception of ownership. At any rate he remonstrated—sometimes forcefully—against any incursion into his hunting ground.

So the slothful, indifferent, shiftless savage, in the mutations of Providence, surrendered his birthright to those who would make use of it. Very soon the country felt the touch of the hand of development and its work has gone steadily forward until the present day. What the future may bring forth is not given man to understand, and perhaps it is better for his peace of mind that this is so.

The first white settlers in Holt County were of that hardy stock that characterized the pioneers in those days. They suffered privations and hardship, the recital of which would fill a large volume, and many of them gave their lives that their posterity might enjoy the fruits of a land the superior of which does not exist anywhere in the world. They came from the older states, Indiana, Virginia, Tennessee and Kentucky. Their ancestors had been pioneers before them and they quailed not at the thought of hewing a home out of the forest wilderness.

The first permanent white settlers in Holt County were Peter and Blank Stephenson. They came from Parke County, Indiana, early in the spring of 1838 and settled about five miles southeast of the present town of Oregon, on section 7, township 59, range 37. The same spring Judge R. H. Russell, John Sterrett, John Russell and James Kee left Indiana for the Platte Pur-

chase. Judge Russell proceeded by steamboat to Clay County, Missouri, where he remained until the following August, cultivating a crop of corn in the meantime. The other members of the party, who had come overland, joined him at that time and the entire party came on to Holt County. They settled near where Peter and Blank Stephenson lived. Judge Russell, who afterwards became one of the wealthy and influential citizens of the county, used to tell his friends how the Stephensons had raised a fairly good crop of corn in that, their first year, and that when he stopped at their cabin upon his arrival in Holt County, they gave him roasting ears.

Judge Russell soon became active in the affairs of the county. He was the first postmaster and the postoffice officially located at Thorp's Mill and was kept in Judge Russell's house. Thorp's Mill was operated by John Thorp and was the first enterprise of the kind in the county. It was located on Mill Creek, about two miles southeast of Oregon.

John Baldwin came also from Parke County, Indiana. He arrived in the fall of 1839 and established his farm on section 18, township 57, range 37, about a mile south of where the Stephensons had settled. George McIntyre came in the fall of 1839 and located on section 5, same congressional township; Smith McIntyre came at the same time and settled on the same section. John M. Briggs, the Widow Jackson and family were other early settlers in this part of the county in 1840.

Roland Burnett (brother of Peter H. Burnett, once prosecuting attorney of this judicial circuit and later a prominent and wealthy citizen of Califodnia), Harmon G. Noland, John Gibson and others settled in the vicinity of Oregon in 1839. Burnett established a claim on what afterwards became the townsite of Oregon, but it was subsequently decided that the county possessed the title, and Mr. Burnett moved to his farm north of town.

The Blairs and Baldwins were the first settlers in Benton Township. John M. Blair and his sons, Uriah and James, reached Holt County April 12, 1839, and located on the bluff line south of the present town of Mound City, on section 20, township 61, range 38. The Blairs came originally from Indiana, about 1827. They settled in Pike County, Illinois, a little later, then moved to Iowa and came to Holt County in the year above given. John M. Blair died in the summer of 1849, on Carson River, at the foot of the Sierra Nevada mountains, while en route to California, with an expedition from Holt County.

Jeremiah Baldwin, his brother, Daniel, and his son, Lambert, settled in the fall of 1839 in the neighborhood of the Blairs. John Hughes and son, also named John, located in the same neighborhood toward the close of the year 1839. Additional

settlements were made in the same locality in 1840. W. A. and Abraham Sharp took up their abode near where the town of Craig now stands in 1841 and the region round about is still known as Sharp's Grove. The same is true of Nickol's Grove northeast of Oregon, which was first permanently inhabited in 1841 by Robert and John Nickols. German settlers were the first to begin the improvement of the extreme northwestern part. John H. Roselius was the pioneer, and Henry Dankers, Henry Peters and Andrew Buck followed soon after.

Whig Valley, where the political sentiments seem to have been so marked as to leave a record in the name of the locality, was first settled by Theodore Highley, who gave the name of that once great party to the beautiful and fertile valley which he settled. It is about midway between Mound City and Maitland.

The early settlers found, besides timber and water an easy and productive soil. To these advantages the sturdy pioneer had but to apply his energies, and the reward was certain. Hence, the wealthy farmers of today, whose broad acres and ample houses, whose grand orchards and blooded live stock are but the primitive establishments of the early settler amplified and developed, step by step, from generation to generation, by industry and thrift, aided by natural conditions, and a constant benediction in the climate. It can truthfully be said that there has never been a total failure of crops in the Platte Purchase.

Because of their early environments, and of the traditions to which they had been brought up, most of the early settlers took naturally to the timbered districts that skirted the streams. Many of them had been taught that land that would not grow timber would not produce crops worth harvesting. Prairie land was classed about the same as a desert by some of the early farmers in Holt County. Most of them lived to see a practical demonstration of the fallacy of this reasoning, although in the '40's and '50's it was accepted as sound agricultural wisdom. There was a practical reason, however, for choosing the timbered sections first. The early settlers required wood for their houses, their fences and their fuel. Transportation was an item of great moment in those days and the nearer the settler was to timber and streams the less his burden along this line.

Among the most abundant trees of all originally found was the black walnut. However, the later demand for this wood in the manufacture of furniture was so great that the forest fell before the axe, and now there is but little of it left. A line of timber still follows most of the streams and detached groves, natural and artificial, are found throughout the county. Along the Missouri bottom is found the ever present willow and the sturdy cottonwood, and the stately sycamore. Forty years ago these trees were considered of little value. They were not even

used for fuel, as a general thing, the discriminating populace demanding oak or other hard wood for their stoves. But it is different now. The oak, like the walnut, has nearly all disappeared and the willows and cottonwoods have been removed to make room for the plow and harrow.

Pioneer life in Holt County was no different from pioneer life elsewhere in the west. The first settlers were plain, hospitable, brave, generous people. They were good neighbors, bound together with a strong bond of sympathy, which made one man's interest every other man's interest, also, and every man's protection lay in the good will and friendship of those about him.

The first dwellings of the white man in this country were a cross between Indian bark huts and "hoop" cabins, for it took a number of men to build a log house. The settlers generally located in bunches for mutual protection, and when three or four families had formed a community, they began the building of log houses, each assisting the other. The logs were round, notched together at the corners. The cabins were ribbed with poles and covered with split boards. A puncheon floor was then laid, a hole cut in the end and a chimney made of sticks and mud. The door was of clapboard, and a window was provided by cutting out a log in the side and inserting glass or covering it with greased paper. The house was then chinked and daubed with mud, and was ready for the occupant.

The furniture consisted generally of the one-legged bedstead, a rude table, a few plain chairs and an assortment of pots and pans for cooking the food at the fireplace, there being no stoves. The one-legged bedstead was made by cutting a stick the proper length and boring holes in the edge to correspond with holes in a log of the cabin. Rounds of wood were inserted into the corresponding holes, and what resembled a ladder in a horizontal position was supported on one corner by a leg, the other end and one side being fastened to the walls. Bark was woven into the rounds, and upon this primitive structure the bed was laid.

The manner of living was extremely simple. For some years the only mills were propelled by horse power or water power. There were no roads and the grain was carried in sacks on horseback. In the first years very little wheat was grown, corn being the only grain. The hominy block, an improved mortar, made by cutting a hole in the stump of a large tree, and using a heavy timber as a pestile, was one way of producing meal for bread. Another instrument was the "gritter," made by punching holes in a piece of tin, which was then nailed to a board, rough side out, and upon which green or previously softened corn was rubbed into a pulp and then baked into bread or ash cakes.

Rye and corn meal parched were often a substitute for coffee and sassafras root produced a palatable substitute for "store tea." Game was plentiful, especially deer, elk, wild turkeys, prairie chickens, and even bear, so there was no scarcity of meat until the hog could be turned into pork.

The clothing was homespun, made by the women of the household—"jeans" for the men and "linsey-woolsey" for the maids and matrons. Hunting shirts and pantaloons of dressed buckskin were also worn by the men. The linsey and jeans for every-day use were colored with hickory or walnut bark and those for Sunday were dyed in indigo. A full suit of blue jeans was considered a fine dress.

It required great industry and rigid economy to make a plain living in those times. Iron and salt, two very necessary articles, were high in price and difficult to obtain. The pioneers had not money, as a rule, and for the first few years had nothing to sell, except skins, wild honey and beeswax. Along the streams there were many hollow trees in which wild bees had deposited their honey, and these were eagerly sought.

There were amusements, too. Log-rolling was a laborious sport. Rail-splitting was another. The women had quilting parties, while the men enjoyed themselves with the logs and the rails, and in the evening there was generally a dance, if a fiddler could be had, or games of various kinds, as in all primitive communities. In fact the history of the early settlers of Kentucky, Tennessee and Indiana was repeated in Missouri.

In a few years the settlers of Holt County had made great progress, and in five years after the country was opened for settlement there were syral saw and flouring mills, roads and other improvements.

CHAPTER II.

LOCATION AND BOUNDARIES OF HOLT COUNTY—BOTTOM LANDS AND ROLLING PRAIRIES—TREES NATIVE TO THE COUNTY—DRAINAGE AND WATER SYSTEM—WHAT A GEOLOGIST SAYS OF THE SOIL—FATE OF A CEMENT MANUFACTORY — GOLD MINE ONCE OPERATED HERE.

Holt County is located in the northwestern part of the state, and is separated from Iowa by Atchison County. It is on nearly the same parallel as Philadelphia and Sacramento and about the same meridian as Lake of the Woods and Galveston, Tex. It is bounded on the north by Atchison and Nodaway Counties, on the east by Nodaway and Andrew Counties, on the south by Kansas, and on the west by Kansas and Nebraska, from which it is separated by the Missouri River, and has an area of 434 square miles. It has ten municipal, four full congressional and nineteen fractional congressional townships.

Considerably more than one-third of the county is occupied by the Missouri River bottoms. North of Township 60 the bottom is more than ten miles in width. Southward the strip of bottom land becomes narrower, converging gradually toward the southern boundary of the county. The bluffs which separate the bottom from the uplands attain a height of from one hundred and twenty-five to two hundred feet, with occasional intervals of low hills. About two miles distant from the Missouri River bluffs, the country becomes less hilly, and soon passes into a beautiful, rolling landscape. From the mouth of the Nodaway River, northward for a distance of ten miles, the adjacent hills are high, and the surface of the land is broken.

In the northeastern part of the county the hills are low and gently undulating. Near Squaw Creek, Davis Creek and the Tarkios the hills have gradual slopes, leading into the adjacent narrow bottoms. When the country was first settled the burrowing of gophers made the bottoms of Squaw Creek and some of the other streams dangerous for horses to pass over, but with the development of the country this conditions has passed away.

When the process of development first began the country south of Oregon consisted principally of timbered land. Near the streams in the northern part of the county a few trees were to be found, but they were mostly of small growth or shrubs. Sometimes a fringe of willow was to be found along the banks. But the plow and the ax, in the hands of the thrifty farmer have changed all of this until now most of the land is under cultivation. Some timber land remains, of course, but it is generally used for pasture, thereby adding to the income of the owner.

Following is a list of trees and shrubs indigneous to the soil of Holt County, which are now or in times past have been found here: Crab-apple, white ash, prickly ash, blackberry, bladdernut, buckeye, box-elder, buttonbush, chokecherry, coffee-tree, cottonwood, Amorpha canescens, Am. Fruticosa, coralberry, cormus sericea, cormus esperifloria, gooseberry, hackberry, hazel, shell-bark hickory, thick shell-bark hickory, pignut hickory, iron wood, honey locust, white maple, mulberry, linden, chinquepin oak, sarsaparilla, burr oak, rock-chestnut oak, scarlet oak, red oak, pin oak, pawpaw, American plum, rose, rosa lucida, red bud, sycamore, sumac, poison oak, thorn, black walnut, red, root, wahoo, willow, coral berry, red elm and American elm.

Originally it was reckoned that only about one-third of the county was prairie. Now it is doubtful if more than one-fifth of the area of the county is timbered. The prairie districts of the county were, generally speaking, in Benton, Union, Liberty, Clay and Lincoln townships. They present an undulating appearance, rather rolling, but admirably adapted to tillage, and productive to the highest degree.

One thing that is scarce in Holt County is poor land. The broken hills near the rivers are sometimes less desirable from an agricultural point of view than some other sections and the prairie between Squaw Creek and the Tarkio are covered with a rather thin soil. Some years ago an authority on geology and soils, had this to say concerning Holt County:

"Between Big Lake and Little Tarkio, in Township 63, the soil is rich and lies well for cultivation, excepting a broken strip, three-quarters of a mile in width, lying along the bluffs. A rich belt, one-quarter of a mile to one mile in width, of gently sloping land, connects the bluffs and extends from the north line of Township 62 to the north line of Township 59. The 'bluff' washed from the hills above is the principal ingredient in this soil. This land slopes off gradually and is capable of producing fine crops, and the steep hillside, which have often thirty or forty degrees ascent, produce crops of corn and wheat.

"South of Oregon and lying between the Missouri Bluffs and the Nodaway River, the soil is based on the bluffs and a disintegrated limestone. The very broken country does not exceed a mile in width, while beyond the rich, hilly, black-oak land extends for several miles. Then we have rich prairies and thicket land. The southern portion is suitable for most crops. The upland prairies, toward the northern and northeastern parts of the county, are high and rolling and rich, with fertile, beautiful valleys between the hills. The bluff knobs seem to have been left by nature for vineyards."

The foregoing is reproduced because it clearly defines the impressions of a trained observer at the time Holt County was

being brought under cultivation, and because much of what was then said applies to present day conditions. There has been no change in the nature of the soil, of course, and the topography of the country is practically the same. The principal change consists in the use the man has made of the land.

Holt County is especially fortunate in the matter of water courses and natural drainage. Added to this are several drainage districts which have reclaimed to the uses of the farmer large numbers of acres of land which was formerly supposed to be useless for any other purpose than the propagation of mosquitoes.

Big Tarkio, one of the principal streams within the county, rises in Montgomery County, Iowa, a distance of more than 150 miles, enters Holt County within a few miles of the northwestern corner, and flows through the Great Bottom and empties into the Missouri River near its intersection with Oiler's Base Line.

Little Tarkio rises in the central part of Atchison County, enters Holt County about eight miles east of the northwestern corner of he county, and enters the Missouri bottom about one mile east of Craig, thence meandering through the bottom, enters one of the numerous drainage ditches and thence finds its way to the Missouri River.

Squaw Creek rises in the southern part of Atchison County, and flowing in a southwesterly direction, enters the Missouri Bottom two miles north of Mound City, and formerly emptied into the Little Tarkio near Bigelow. Its waters are now carried to the Missouri River by drainage ditches. Its principal tributaries are Ross Branch, Hog Branch, Donan's Branch and Porter's Branch.

Davis Creek rises in the northeastern part of the county, flows southwest and formerly emptied into Squaw Creek. It now flows into the main Squaw Creek drainage ditch. Pierson's Branch, Kimsey Creek, Luckhardt's Branch, Mill Creek, Ester Branch, Hardin's Branch, Nickol's Creek, Hickory Creek, Hog Creek, Higley Creek and Rolling Fork are all small water courses running in different directions through the county, constituting a great network in that system of natural drainage which renders Holt County one of the best watered and most productive farming districts in the state.

The Nodaway River is the largest stream touching the county, except the Missouri. The Nodaway River rises in Iowa, and flows along the eastern border of the county, affording the finest water power in Northwest Missouri. In fact many of the smaller streams furnish excellent mill sites which were utilized by the pioneers, before the steam and gasoline engine came into use. The Nodaway was, when first discovered, considered a navigabl stream. During the year 1871 a steam boat of light draft,

ascended several miles above its mouth, but its course is too tortuous and narrow to permit of successful navigation.

A number of lakes in the county have in the past afforded excellent sport for the hunter and fisherman. Big Lake, until a few years ago, was a popular resort, and attracted visitors from distant states because of the excellent fishing there. It has lately been rejuvenated and stocked with game fish.

The mineral resources of Holt County have never been developed to any appreciable extent, principally because the country is more generally adapted to agriculture. However, Holt County is not without minerals and in the past some time and money have been spent in an endeavor to add them to the county's resources. Daniel Kunkel, Sr., founder of the Kunkel Mills, a mile east of Oregon, half a century ago, found a four-foot vein of good coal at a depth of 665 feet. No effort has ever been made to work the vein, although geologists have expressed the opinion that the seam of Lexington coal extends as far north as Holt County. But its depth is too great to make mining profitable, the learned gentlemen say. For many years a sand stone quarry was in operation in the vicinity of Forest City. Lime stone quarries have been opened at Forest City and for six miles southeast; also on Mill Creek and Nickol's Creek.

A plant for the manufacture of cement was established by the Oregon Elevator Company two and one-half miles south by west of Oregon. The building, which was situated near the railroad tracks, was erected for use as an elevator at a cost of about $5,000. The company failed and the property passed into possession of Rhodes & Payne. Mr. Rhodes was a practical plasterer and decided to locate here after spending two years in prospecting in different sections for cement rock. James B. Payne afterwards became one of the substantial business men of Oregon. William Baskins was general agent for the cement and for a time it looked like the enterprise would be a great money maker.

The plant had a capacity of fifty barrels a day and the quality of its product was said to be superior to the St. Louis cement which was a staple article in those days. But this enterprise proved no exception to the rule that quality does not always win. The wealthy eastern concerns determined to break down this western competitor and undersold it so recklessly that it was finally forced to suspend. That stone from which a superior article of cement can be made is evident from the fact that during the last few years the cement manufacturers' trust has sent its experts to examine and report on all of the stone bearing territory from Amazonia to the northern part of Holt County.

The gold fever broke out in the region round about Oregon in 1875, and although it did no one any particular harm, it kept

the mining enthusiasts busy for a spell. There were many who believed that gold in limited quantities was actually found, but others who had never known the lure that leads the prospector on, ridiculed the idea of there being any such thing as a gold mine in Holt County.

Levi Crouser, John H. McIntyre and J. Ham comprised a joint stock company which operated a gold mine on Swank Branch, a tributary of Little Tarkio, about two and a half miles due south of Oregon. The first discovery was made by McIntyre in digging a well. With the other two mentioned, he began prospecting and, encouraged by the hope of wealth, they began mining operations in real earnest. At one time five men were employed and a tunnel was dug into the hillside a distance of two hundred and thirty feet. Specimens taken from the mine were declared by Dr. Hays, of Boston, a celebrated assayist, to be the richest that had come under his observation. But notwithstanding the good prospects at the beginning the mines did not make their owners rich and the property finally passed into the hands of Ira Stocking, at one time a jeweler and watchmaker in Oregon.

CHAPTER III.

ORGANIZATION OF VIRGIN TERRITORY INTO HOLT COUNTY—FIRST COUNTY COURT—OTHER COURTS AND TRIBUNALS—FIRST TOWNSHIP—EARLY APPOINTMENTS OF COUNTY OFFICERS—LOCATION OF SITE FOR COUNTY SEAT—EARLY MARRIAGES.

The original act of the legislature by which Holt County was organized is as follows:

"That portion of territory included within the following described limits, to-wit: Beginning in the middle of the main channel of the Missouri River, at a point where the range line dividing ranges thirty-six and thirty-seven would intersect the same; thence north with said range line to the middle of the main channel of the Nodaway River; thence up the middle of the main channel of said river, to the northern boundary of the state; thence west with said boundary line, to the middle of the main channel of the Missouri River; thence down said river, in the middle of the main channel thereof, to the place of beginning, shall be called Holt County, in honor of David R. Holt, Esq., late representative from Platte County, any law to the contrary notwithstanding."

This act was approved February 15, 1841. On January 29, 1841, some seventeen days previous to the passage of above mentioned, the legislature had created of the same territory the county of Nodaway, hence the words "any law to the contrary notwithstanding."

Th present boundaries of Holt County are as follows:

Beginning in the middle of the main channel of the Missouri River, at a point where the line dividing ranges thirty-six and thirty-seven, extended, would intersect the same; thence south with said range line to the middle of the main channel of the Nodaway River; thence up the middle of the main channel of said river, to the line of Atchison County; thence west with said line to the middle of the main channel of the Missouri River; thence down the middle of the main channel thereof, to the beginning."

Holt County, when first formed, embraced Atchison County; that part of Nodaway County lying west of the Nodaway River, and extended north ten miles into the state of Iowa—Missouri claiming jurisdiction over a strip of country ten miles wide along the southern line of Iowa—at that date the dispute concerning the boundary line between the two states had not been settled.

In January, 1841, that portion of Holt County lying north of a line running from a point on the Missouri River, opposite the

house of H. Wallace (later known as the G. Schulte place), to the main crossing of the Big Tarkio, about a mile above Craig, thence northeasterly to the state line, was cut off by the legislature, and named Allen County, but left under the jurisdiction of the Holt County Court, in the same manner as the Territory of Neatawah had been attached to Buchanan County. Allen County was abolished, February, 1845, Atchison and Nodaway were organized and Holt County was then reduced to its present limits.

The first act naming and defining the boundaries of Nodaway County was approved January 29, 1841. It directed that the circuit and county courts of that county should be held at the dwelling of William Thorp until a permanent seat of justice could be established, or until the county court ordered otherwise. That act also named Travis Finley of Clay County, Edward Smith of Clinton County and John A. Williams of Daviess County, commissioners to select the permanent seat of justice, and after the passage of the act organizing the same territory into Holt County (the name simply being changed from Nodaway to Holt), the parties named as commissioners in the act organizing Nodaway County, proceeded to select the permanent seat of government. June 21, 1841, they reported to the county court that they had selected the east half of the southeast quarter of section 26, township 60, range 38, where Oregon now stands. The commissioners in their report named their selection Finley, but it was changed to Oregon by the County Court, October 21, 1841, on which date David Templeton, as County Surveyor, filed the plate of Finley-Oregon.

The territory of Neatawah, above referred to contained about 3,200 square miles and extended ten miles north of the present state line between Iowa and Missouri, embracing the counties of Andrew, Holt, Atchison and Nodaway, so that the Buchanan County Court held jurisdiction over a country almost as large as the combined states of Delaware and Rhode Island. The territory of Neatawah was abolished in 1841.

There seems to have been much deliberation and consideration of the matter of naming Holt County. It is recorded that the legislators did not act on an impulse as is sometimes done in such cases. They seem to have realized that they were naming one of the best counties in the state and they wished to select a cognomen appropriate and pleasing. It was finally decided that the new county should be named for one of the best men in their body.

Hon. David Rice Holt was born in Virginia about the year 1805. He was a minister of the gospel and a physician, and had attained an enviable standing in each. He was a minister of the Presbyterian Church (Old School), in which he was reared. He moved from Virginia to Saline County, Missouri, between 1830 and 1834. Soon after the Platte Purchase was opened for

settlement Dr. Holt came to Platte County, where he located in wild and unsurveyed land. Soon after his arrival in Platte the county was organized. The first election for member of the legislature occurred in August, 1840. Under the most favorable circumstances new counties generally require much local legislation and especially was this the case in Platte County. Hence the people of Platte County, fully realizing their wants and wishing to send a man of superior legislative ability, instinctively turned to Dr. Holt as the only proper person for the emergency. The Constitution of Missouri at that time prohibited ministers of the gospel from serving as members of the legislature.

This rendered the position of the doctor extremely unpleasant. Upon the one hand he disliked to refuse the importunities of his countrymen who thought him to be the only person in their midst who could bring order out of confusion; and upon the other he regretted the idea of severing his connection with the pulpit. He finally, however, yielded to their solicitations and was elected to the legislature in 1841, without opposition. Although the doctor had no legislative experience he was at once selected as one of the three membrs of a committee from the Upper and Lower House, whose duty it was to settle the accounts of the Auditor and Treasurer before the meeting of the legislature.

The session was scarcely commenced when the doctor was taken sick, and after lingering some two weeks it became apparent to him and his friends that he could not live. His wife was written to, and although she left her home promptly, horseback—about the only possible mode of travel in those days—she did not reach Jefferson City until the day of his death. Dr. Holt was buried in the State Cemetery December 20, 1840, with appropriate honors and Gen. A. W. Doniphan, who was at the same time a member of the Legislature and a friend of the doctor, announced his death to the Assembly.

Dr. Holt married a Miss White, a sister of Captain John H. White, who once represented respectively the counties of Andrew and Platte. She was an accomplished and beautiful woman. The doctor was nearly six feet in height; perfectly erect; cast in the mold of admirable proportions, and active in his movements. He was a ripe scholar, a graceful and fluent speaker, possessed a clear, bright face, sparkling brilliant eyes—especially when speaking in the pulpit or on the rostrum. He was fair and manly in debate, his bearing was courteous, and his social qualities were of the highest order. His attainments were great and varied. He devoted much time to his two professions, yet never lost his taste for the ancient or modern classics and general literature. He was deeply versed in all subjects in the range of polite erudition and scholarship and a man of untiring energy and of indomitable will.

COUNTY ORGANIZATION.

March 24, 1841, the first County Court of Holt County convened at the house of William Thorp in the northwest quarter of section 12, township 59, range 33, now (1916) in Lewis Township, adjoining the west line of Forbes Township and now owned by the heirs of James Stephenson.

Harrison G. Noland, James Crowley and Joshua Adkins produced from his excellency, Thomas Reynolds, Governor of the State of Missouri, their commissions appointing them justices of the Holt County Court, together with the oath of office therein endorsed. These were ordered to be certified for record. These commissions were dated "City of Jefferson, February 16, 1841." The record of the proceedings of that day sets forth that the oath of office was administered by William Thorp, Jr., Justice of the Peace.

The first order of the court, after its organization, was the appointment of Harrison G. Noland, president of the tribunal. Bayless B. Grigsby was appointed clerk protem, and before its adjournment, clerk until the legal termination of said office. His sureties were William Thorp, Jr., and G. B. Thorp. The second order was the enrollment of John W. Kelley, an attorney, to practice in the courts of Holt County, which at that moment meant the County Court, of course.

On the same day it was "ordered that Joshua Horn and Josiah Skelton be granted a grocer's (dramshop) license, the store to be kept at their residence, for the six months next ensuing, by paying a state tax thereon of ten dollars." The court on that day further ordered that R. M. Barkhurst be granted a license to keep a ferry across the Nodaway River, at the rapids thereof, for the space of twelve months, without paying a tax thereon, at the following rates: For crossing a man, 6¼ cents; for crossing a man and horse, 12½ cents; for crossing a two-horse wagon and team, empty, 37½ cents; for crossing a two-horse wagon and team, loaded, 75 cents; for crossing a six-horse wagon and team, empty, 50 cents; for crossing a six-horse wagon and team, loaded, $1.00; for crossing loose horses and cattle, each, 3 cents; for crossing hogs and sheep, each head, 1½ cents.

It was then and there further "ordered that Green B. Thorp be and is hereby appointed assessor for Holt County for the year 1841." It is also recorded that the said G. B. Thorp forthwith entered into bond, with William Thorp as his surety, in the penal sum of $500, conditioned according to law, which bond was approved by the court. It was finally "ordered that the sheriff advertise at three of the most public places in the county, that the County Court of Holt County will meet at William Thorp's, on the second Thursday in April next. Whereupon the first

session of the County Court adjourned till the above specified day and date.

H. G. NOLAND,
JOSHUA ADKINS,
JAMES CROWLEY.

B. B. Grigsby, Clerk.

At the special adjourned term of the Holt County Court, held at the house of William Thorp, in Holt County, Missouri, on the second Tuesday in April, 1841 (judges and clerks as above), it was ordered that the county be divided into three municipal townships, as follows:

Nodaway Township—Beginning at the mouth of Nodaway River, and thence up said river to the point of intersection with range line dividing ranges thirty-seven and thirty-eight; thence south with said range line to the Missouri River; thence to the point of beginning with the Missouri.

It will be seen that Nodaway Township included, originally, a strip of territory not more than six miles in width near its base or southern limits, and tapering more or less gradually, narrowed to a point where the Nodaway River touches the range line of thirty-seven and thirty-eight, in Atchison County, fifteen or sixteen miles north of the present (1916) boundary of Holt County and embracing a strip of country now included within the limits of Nodaway County.

Lewis Township—Beginning in the middle of the main channel of the Missouri River where the range line between thirty-seven and thirty-eight intersects said river; thence north to the northern boundary of the county; thence west to the High Bridge Creek; thence down said creek to the Missouri River; thence down the Missouri River to the point of beginning.

Nishnebotna Township—The third township formed at this time included a strip of territory between the Nishnebotna and Missouri Rivers from the mouth of the former to the northern limits of the state, and consequently comprised no part of the territory embraced within the present area of Holt County. The townships of Nodaway and Lewis are, therefore, the only ones with which we are now concerned, and from these two, with various modifications and changes from time to time, have been formed the present (1916) townships of Lewis, Nodaway, Clay, Union, Bigelow, Lincoln, Forbes, Hickory, Liberty, Benton, Forest, Minton—twelve in number.

The County Court at this second term gave forth the following extraordinary pronouncement, with respect to the regulation of dramshops, for it must be borne in mind that a grocery store in those days was also a place where a man with a thrist could be accommodated:

"Ordered, that the act concerning groceries, etc., passed by the legislature in the year 1839, shall not extend to nor be in force in Holt County."

The judges evidently were state rights men and believed in the application of that principle to county organizations. There is no record that their official act at this time brought their tribunal any trouble with the state authorities.

At this term R. H. Russell was appointed alloting justice for Lewis Township.

In May, 1841, the first election was held in Holt County. Justices of the Peace and Constables were elected as follows: Lewis Township, John Gibson and Gallatin Adkins, Justices and John Lewis, Constable of Lewis Township.

Abraham Brown and James C. Templeton were elected Justices for Nodaway Township.

John R. Jackson and Jacob McKissock were elected Justices and James Handley Constable of Nishnebotna Township, then a part of Holt County, but, as before stated, included in what is now Atchison County.

June 14, 1841, the County Court, which had theretofore assembled at William Thorp's, convened at the residence of Gilbert Ray, two and a half miles east of the site of the present town of Oregon. At this term Joseph Brenard was granted a license to keep a ferry across the Nishnebotna River, at his residence thereon, for the space of twelve months, by paying a tax of two dollars. David Templeton was appointed County Surveyor at this term and William P. Stephenson was named as administrator of the estate of Blank Stephenson, deceased. This was the first appointment of the kind in the county.

The county seat commissioners made their report at this time, they having selected the site of what is now the town of Oregon and that name was used as a caption for their report, although they named the proposed town Finley, in compliment to Travis Finley, one of the commissioners. The name later was formally changed to Oregon. The text of the report follows:

June 23d, 1841.

In pursuance of an act passed by the last Missouri Legislature appointing the undersigned as commissioners to select a permanent seat of justice for Holt County, and in pursuance of an order of the County Court of Holt County, made at the May term, 1841, designating the 7th day of June then next ensuing, and requiring the undersigned to assemble on that day, at the house of Mrs. Jackson, to make said location; and whereas, John A. Williams, one of the undersigned, assembled at said place and time, and no other commissioners having appeared, he, the said

charge the duties devolving upon them, according to the act of the legislature, and the requisitions of the order of the County John A. Williams, adjourned until the 21st day of June (this instant), when the undersigned commissioners convened, and having been first duly sworn according to law, proceeded to dis-Court. After having made an examination for a suitable site whereon to locate a permanent seat of justice for said county, we have selected the following quarter section of land for said county seat, lying in Range 38, Township 60, and the east half of the southeast quarter of Section 27 and the west half of the southwest quarter of Section 26, which said seat of justice is to be known as Finley. Given under our hands this 23d day of June, 1841.

JOHN A. WILLIAMS,
EDWARD SMITH,
TRAVIS FINLEY.

It appears that the action of the commissioners above referred to in locating the quarter section for the town site on two separate sections, was in violation of an established precedent, if not statutory provision restricting the same to one section, and in consequence involved the county in no little embarrassment. The east eighty included a portion of a quarter section pre-empted by Roland Burnett, and the west eighty of another section by Larkin Packwood.

At the September term of the County Court, which was convened at the house of Gilbert Ray, September 15, 1841, it was "Ordered by the court that the commissioner for the seat of justice for this county, proceed to lay off said seat of justice into lots, eighty feet in front and one hundred and fifty feet in length and squares containing eight lots, with an avenue sixty feet wide, and one alley fourteen feet in width, making four streets, two north and south and two east and west, one of which on each side of the public square, each eighty feet wide; all other streets to be sixty feet wide; the stake stuck by the judges to be the center of the public square. Provided, that he divide into lots, avenues and alleys, from the said public square east, only one square, south two, west two, and north two squares, and that he make to this court, at its next session, a report of his proceedings, making a plat of the town."

"Ordered that the commissioner advertise in ten most public places in Holt, five in Andrew, and five in Buchanan County, a sale of lots in the county seat of Holt County, on the 21st day of October, 1841, on the followisg terms: One-tenth in hand, and the balance in three semi-annual installments."

At the October term following, it was ordered by the County Court " That the Commissioner be authorized and required to make the public square of said county seat at or near the stake now set." The Commissioner referred to was John Thorp, who

had resigned the office of deputy clerk of the Holt County Court at the July, 1841, term of the same, and accepted the position of County Seat Commissioner.

It appears that previously to the above mentioned order of sale, the County Court, at its July term had ordered the first sale of lots in the county seat to take place September 1, 1841.

At the August term, 1841, James Kimsey was nominated to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Joshua Adkins, the first official to resign an office in the county.

The September term, 1841, of the County Court was held at the residence of G. Ray, Judges Nowland, Crowley and Kimsey on the bench. The latter produced his commission from His Excellency, Thomas Reynolds, governor of the state, and was duly sworn. At this term the following orders were made and recorded:

"It is considered by the court that five hundred dollars is necessary to be raised for defraying the expenses of the county for the present year, and that on all subjects of taxation the county tax shall exceed the state tax one hundred per cent and on all licenses, ferries excepted, the county tax shall exceed that of the state one hundred per cent; on ferries that state and county tax shall be the same."

"Ordered that R. M. Barkhurst be required to enter into bond as Collector of Holt County in the sum of one thousand dollars."

"Ordered that Gilbert Ray be appointed Treasurer of Holt County."

The following rather original order closed the proceedings of this term of the court:

"Ordered that, whereas, it is the opinion of this court, that as the county is poor and thinly settled, it is not the interest of this county that the grand jurors thereof should be paid. It is therefore ordered that no compensation shall be paid to the grand jurors of this county."

At the October term, 1841, held at the residence of Gilbert Ray, the Collector of Holt County made the following settlement:

Received on Ferry License	$ 2.00
For County	2.00
Merchants' License, State Tax	26.12½
County Tax	52.25
Total	$82.37½

RICHARD M. BARKHURST, Collector.

Court then adjourned to meet at the residence of Larkin Packwood, October 21, 1841.

At the January term, 1842, R. M. Barkhurst presented his delinquent list for taxes during the year 1841, which amounted to $15.50 state tax, and $31.02 to the county. At the February term, 1842, it was ordered "that the courts of record be hereafter held at Rachel Jackson's in this county."

At the same term, "Gilbert Ray, Treasurer, comes into court and makes settlement for the preceding year, and has a balance of twenty-five cents on hand. He is therefore charged with the same." The Sheriff also comes into court and makes settlement for county tax on the tax book for 1841, and is charged with the sum of two hundred and sixty-six dollars and twenty-three and three-quarters cents.

CIRCUIT COURT.

The first term of the Circuit Court, within and for the County of Holt, was held at the house of William Thorp, commencing on the 4th day of March A. D., 1841. The record, to which volume after volume has been added in the seventy-five years that have elapsed since that time, is worthy of reproduction here. It follows:

March Term, 1841.

"At a Circuit Court, held for the County of Holt, in the State of Missouri, at the house of William Thorp, in said County, on Thursday, the 4th day of March, 1841, was present the Honorable David R. Atchison, who presented a commission from His Excellency, Thomas Reynolds, Governor of this State, appointing him judge of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, which commission, together with the testimonials thereon endorsed, are ordered to be recorded, which are in the following words and figures, to-wit:

The State of Missouri.

To All Who Shall See These Presents, Greeting:

That it having been certified to me that the Senate of Missouri has advised and consented to the nomination of David R. Atchison, as Judge of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, now, therefore, in the name and on behalf of the State of Missouri, I, Thomas Reynolds, Governor thereof, do hereby commission him judge of the aforesaid circuit, according to law. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great seal of the State of Missouri to be affixed at Jefferson City, this first day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight

hundred and forty-one, of the independence of the United States the sixty-fifth, and of this state the twenty-first.

By the Governor,

THOMAS REYNOLDS.

James L. Minor, Secretary of State.

Endorsed—I, David R. Atchison, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of this state, and faithfully demean myself in the office of Judge of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, in the State of Missouri.

DAVID R. ATCHISON.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Justice of the Peace, in and for Clay County, in the State of Missouri, this 13th day of February, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and forty-one.

ABRAHAM SHAFER, J. P.

Andrew S. Hughes was appointed Clerk pro tem and William Thorp was appointed Sheriff. Peter H. Burnett had received the appointment of Prosecuting Attorney from the Governor.

The names of the first grand jurors were: Joshua Adkins, Isaac Massic, Gilbert Ray, George Drane, Harman G. Noland, Green B. Thorp, B. B. Grigsby, R. H. Russell, Thomas Crowley, Roland Burnett, John Gibson, John Russell, John Starrill, James Kimsey, Henry Holder, John Morgan and David Jones. Harman G. Noland was foreman.

The first bills of indictment were the following:

"The State of Missouri against Joseph Roberts for trading with Indians. The same against Henry Casner for robbery."

The first case that was called and tried in court was the State of Missouri against Jonas Casner, who was under a recognizance to keep the peace. The grand jurors having no further business before them were discharged from further service.

Andrew S. Hughes resigned his office as Clerk pro tem of the Circuit Court March 6, 1841, which resignation was accepted and Bayless B. Grigsby was appointed Clerk of the Circuit Court of Holt County, to hold his office until his successor should be elected and qualified. Upon taking the oath required by law Grigsby executed two bonds with Harman G. Noland, Roland Burnett and John Gibson as sureties. One bond was in the penal sum of $5,000 and was conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties as Circuit Clerk of Holt County. The other bond was for $1,500 and guaranteed the tax payers that he would properly conduct the office of Recorder of Holt County. Both

bonds were approved by the court and ordered certified for record in the office of the Secretary of State.

June 24, 1841, Circuit Court met at the house of Gilbert Ray, such being the place designated by the Holt County Court for holding courts of record until the place should by law be changed. At this term on motion of Peter H. Burnett, prosecuting attorney, Prince L. Hudgens, James B. Gardenhire, Benjamin Hays, Edwin Toole, James S. Thomas, Solomon S. Leonard, Lansford M. Hastings, Frederick Greenhough, James Baldwin, John M. Young, Christopher P. Brown, Elias P. West and Theodore D. Wheaton, were enrolled as attorneys of the Holt Circuit Court.

Richard M. Barkhurst filed his bond as Sheriff. It was $5,000 in amount and bore the signatures of Gilbert Ray, James C. Templeton, John Robinson and Abraham Brown as sureties. After being properly and judicially scrutinized by the court the bond was approved.

The first case that came regularly for trial before the Circuit Court was a criminal action against Joseph Roberts, who had been indicted by the grand jury at the first (March) term on the formal charge of trading with the Indians. The Sheriff, it appears failed to find the accused and being impressed with the importance of his office and the gravity of the situation, evidently thought a little Latin would serve his purpose. He intended to make a non-est return, but being somewhat lacking in familiarity with Latin terms applying to court procedure he made a return of "nole prosequi." In the case of Henry Casner, charged with robbery the court issued an alias capias to Carroll County.

The clerk was ordered at this term to certify to the Secretary of State that there were four townships in the county and that there was not, within the limits of the same, a single volume of the laws of Missouri. It must be borne in mind that the limits of the county at this period included, besides its present area, the whole extent of what is now Atchison County.

The second grand jury was empaneled to serve at the June term of 1841, and consisted of John M. Briggs, Job Carter, Elias Davidson, Smith McIntyre, Benjamin Davidson, William Stephenson, John Blair, Jeremiah Baldwin, J. Holdin, Nathan Robinson, Riley H. Roland, Zedekiah Davis, Benjamin Marlow, Thomas Keeny, Abijah Duncan, Jacob Davis and James Miller. John M. Briggs was chosen foreman. The following indictments were found by this body. Joseph Roberts charged with trading with an Indian; David Templeton charged with assault with intent to kill. He was tried and acquitted at the October term. Seriah Stevens and Perry Curtis, forgery; George Comegy, peddling without license; Charles Bennett, selling goods without a license. The men who comprised the second grand jury seem to have been more fortunate than those who served on the first

jury, since it is recorded that they were allowed one dollar and fifty cents each for their services.

The first petit jury in Holt County was empaneled at the October, 1841, term of the Circuit Court, which met pursuant to adjournment at the home of Gilbert Ray, three and a half miles east of the present town of Oregon. The jury consisted of George Borchers, the pioneer merchant, Samuel G. Vest, William H. Cunningham, John Sweare, Jesse Carroll, John Offrey, Jacob Tarwater, Abraham Keeney, Silas Pearce, Francis Cassada, William P. Braden and Thomas Ferguson. The first case tried was a criminal prosecution against Josiah Roberts, who was charged with bartering with the Indians contrary to the laws of that day. The jurors did not believe he was guilty and turned him loose.

FIRST RECORDS.

The first instrument filed for record in the Recorder's office is a chattel mortgage and is as follows:

This indenture, made and entered into by and between Tolbert Bass, of the County of Holt and State of Missouri, of the first part, and Henry Holder, of the county and state aforesaid, of the other part, witnesseth: That the said Tolbert Bass, of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of thirty-one dollars and eighty-one cents, to him in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, hath bargained, sold and conveyed, and doth bargain, sell and convey, by these presents, unto the said Henry Holder, of the second part, the following property to-wit: One roan mare and colt; one yoke of oxen and wagon and one cow and calf, to hold, have and to hold the same, to the said Henry Holder, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, and to his and their own proper use and behoof forever. But the above is made and entered into, and this conveyance is to have effect upon this condition: That if the said Tolbert Bass, his executors and administrators or assigns, shall and do, well and truly pay, or cause to be paid unto the said Henry Holder, his executors, administrators or assigns, the full sum of thirty-one dollars and eighty-one cents, on or before the 25th day of December, eighteen hundred and forty-two, agreeable to an obligation of the said Tolbert Bass, for the sum of thirty-one dollars and eighty-one cents, dated 21st October, 1841, then and in such case these presents, and every matter and thing herein mentioned and contained shall cease, determine and be utterly void, anything herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding, as witness my hand and seal this 20th day of October, 1841.

TOLBERT BASS.

Attest: B. B. Grigsby.

Filed October 20, 1841. B. B. GRIGSBY, Recorder.

The second instrument filed for record was a lease. It follows closely the legal forms of the present day, indicating that there must have been some pretty good lawyers in Holt County in those pioneer days:

This indenture made the 24th day of December, 1841, between Jonathan Keeney, of the County of Holt and State of Missouri, of the one part, and Lazarus Philips and Jeremiah Philips, of the same county and state, of the other part, witnesseth, that the said Jonathan Keeney, for the consideration hereinafter mentioned, hath devised, granted and leased unto the said L. and J. Philips, the farm and improvements thereon, on which the said J. Keeney now resides, together with the distillery and all appurtenances attached thereto, two wagons and three yoke of oxen, two plows and three hoes, and fifty head of hogs. The said J. Keeney also agrees to aid and assist as a hand on the farm and to have the washing done for the said L. and J. Philips. The said Keeney has given possession of the above farm, improvements, distillery and appurtenances, wagons, &c., above shpecified, to the said L. and J. Philips, which they are to have the peaceable and quiet possession of, and all the profits and increase of the farm, distillery and stock. They are also to have and to hold until the first day of March, 1843. The said L. and J. Philips, for the above consideration, bind themselves, their heirs, executors and administrators, to pay on the first day of March, 1843, to the said Jonathan Keeney, his heirs, executors and administrators, the sum of three thousand dollars, good and lawful money of the State of Missouri. They also bind themselves to keep and hold in their possession, all of the above specified property, nor are they to part with any portion of it, without the consent of all the parties hereto bound. They are also bound to furnish for the maintenance of the said J. Keeney and his family, whatever is necessary for their support, out of the proceeds arising from the farm and stock above described. The said L. and J. Philips bind themselves to make a good and substantial fence, commencing at the northeast corner of said Keeney's cornfield and running east with the bluff until it strikes the Tarkio. They are also to put up two tobacco houses, each eighteen by twenty feet square, and they are to make other necessary fencing, such as lots for the keeping of stock in, &c. The said L. and J. Philips bind and obligate themselves to be faithful, diligent and attentive to the stock, farm and distillery, and to give due attention to preserve them from injury. It is further agreed and stipulated between the parties, that at the expiration of the above lease, to-wit: On the first day of March, 1843, if the above named L. and J. Philips shall well and truly pay unto the said Jonathan Keeney the above named sum of three thousand dollars, then all of the above described property, together with the profits and increase that shall have arisen therefrom, are to become and be the property of them, the said L. and J. Phillips.

But if the said L. and J. Philips should make default, and fail to make the above payment at the time they therein bind themselves to do, then the farm, improvements, distillery and other appurtenances, and the other property above described, reverts and becomes the property of Jonathan Keeney, together with the one-half of all the profits and proceeds which may have arisen from it during the above period, and the other and remaining half of the profits and increase, shall become and be the property of L. and J. Philips. The said Jonathan Keeney has received and hereby acknowledges the receipt of eighteen dollars in hand, paid him, by the said L. and J. Philips, which is to be deducted out of the amount of the above three thousand dollars, when the same becomes due.

In witness whereof, the parties have hereunto set their hands and seals, the day and year first above written.

JONATHAN KEENEY,
LAZARUS PHILIPS,
JEREMIAH PHILIPS.

Signed, sealed and acknowledged in the presence of us.

JOHN W. KELLEY,
ROBERT NOCHETT.

Filed the 5th day of January, 1842.

B. B. GRIGSBY, Clerk.
By H. LINVILLE, D. C.

EARLY MARRIAGES.

Cupid seems to have become active soon after the early settlers took up their abode in Holt County. He may have accompanied the first pioneers here. Who knows? At any rate seven marriages were solemnized during the year 1841. Following are verbatim copies of some of the early marriages reported:

John A. Benson to Miss Kimsey—This is to certify that on the 18th day of April, 1841, the rites of matrimony were solemnized by the undersigned between John A. Benson and ———— Kimsey, both of the County of Holt and State of Missouri. July 7, 1841. Certificate.

G. B. THORP,
An Ordainer Minister.

State of Missouri, County of Holt, ss.

I, Bayless B. Grigsby, Recorder of the County of Holt, aforesaid, do certify that the foregoing marriage was recorded by me on the 7th day of July, 1841.

BAYLESS B. GRIGSBY, Recorder.

This is to certify that on the 25th day of July, 1841, John M. Briggs and Elizabeth Follen were joined together in the holy state of matrimony by the undersigned, an ordained minister of the gospel, given under my hand this 9th day of August, 1841.

G. B. THORP.

State of Missouri, County of Holt, ss.

Lawfully married by me, the underesigned Justice of the Peace, of Nisnebotha Township, Mr. William Barrett to Miss Mary Jane Jones, daughter of David Jones.

JACOB McKISSICK, J. P.

November 17, 1841.

State of Missouri, County of Holt, ss.

November the 25th day, 1841.

This day William Grissum and Jane Ellen Roberts were married according to law, by me, John Stewart, one of the Justices of the Peace in and for said County.

To the Circuit Clerk of Holt County, Missouri:

This is to certify that on the 9th day of December, 1841, in the presence of R. M. Barkhurst and I. Kelley, esquire, I solemnized the rites of matrimony between Cain Owen and Mary Nichols, all of Holt County, Mo. Given under my hand this 9th day of December, 1841.

THOMAS B. RUBLE,
Ordained Elder of the M. E. Church.

CHAPTER IV.

REMINISCENCES OF A PIONEER.—THE LATE STEPHEN C. COLLINS EXPERIENCED MANY OF THE HARDSHIPS WHICH TRIED MEN'S SOULS IN THE EARLY DAYS.—HE TELLS OF THEM IN A GRAPHIC STORY WRITTEN MANY YEARS BEFORE HIS DEATH.

The following interesting narrative was prepared by Stephen C. Collins, for many years a resident of Oregon, for the history of the county published in 1881. It is even more entertaining now than it was when first printed.

During September, 1841, I left the state of Indiana and passed through Illinois, part of Iowa, and came to Andrew County, Missouri, where I remained about three weeks. When coming to Andrew County I passed the cabin of Joseph Robidoux, which then occupied the spot on which the City of St. Joseph now stands.

The first time I was in Holt County was in October, 1841, in company with three other persons. We were here on a hunting expedition and to look at the country. We crossed the Nodaway River where Hollister's Mill was afterwards built. We (a young man and myself) had a little cornbread and some meat, a meal or so, but no blankets or overcoats. I had a gun, a tomahawk and a large knife which I carried in my belt. John had a gun. We started in a northwesterly direction through the Nodaway bluffs, toward Nickol's Grove, and when passing through the grove, we heard a rumbling as if machinery was in motion. Upon our arrival at the spot, we saw a small grist mill, including a small pair of burrs, and turned by the water of Nickols Creek. Here we saw Robert Nickol, proprietor of the mill.

We continued our course until we reached the Ellington Ferry road leading to Council Bluffs. Here we passed upon the high bluffs which overlook the Missouri River, and viewed the beautiful landscape which was then spread out before us, as it came from the hand of nature. After descending into the great bottom we were within three miles (southeast) of the present site of Mound City. Continuing our course we passed a double log house on the south side of Davis Creek, where a man by the name of Ferguson lived. This was near a point afterwards called North Point, and still later, Jackson's Point. After proceeding a short distance further, up a small branch, we camped for the night near the cabin where old man Dodge lived.

We started early next morning, still following the Council Bluffs road, under the bluffs. We stopped a few moments at a

spring where we found a woman washing. Her name was Nancy McCoy, and she was the first woman we had seen in Holt County. About 1 p. m. we passed through the southwest part of Sharp's Grove. Adam and Claiborne Sharp settled there in 1841. We left the higher ground at this point and descended again into the Missouri bottom. We soon reached Daniel Durbin's, at the crossing of the Big Tarkio. Here was being built a ferry boat. Two yoke of oxen were chained to a tree and were used in pulling emigrant wagons over the Tarkio, which was a muddy creek. I went into a log cabin, very low roofed, with chimney constructed of sod, or sticks and mud, and spoke for dinner. After we had eaten we went out to get directions about going into the great Rush Bottom, fifteen miles south, and on the west side of the Tarkio. Mr. Durbin said that three men, with forty head of cattle and one wagon had crossed that morning and had gone south, through the high grass, to the Rush Bottom, on the Big Lake, or Tarkio Slough, and we could follow their wagon track.

We crossed in a canoe and about dusk we neared the Big Tarkio, where we found high weeds, vines and grass. Here I began to make a fire with steel and flint, powder and tow. John asked me what I was doing. I told him we would camp here for the night, when he asked me if I was afraid. I answered that we could not do any better and that we could not follow the wagon track in the night. Just at this time our ears were saluted with the howling of prairie wolves near by. John moved nearer to me, with dilating eyes and gazed upon the setting sun, in a wistful, longing manner, as though he dreaded the darkness which would soon gather around us. Mr. Durbin had told John, while we were at dinner, that there were white bear and other dangerous animals on the Big Tarkio, hence his present trepidation. I did what I could to convince him that these stories were untrue, and think I succeeded as I heard nothing more from him on the subject.

We had neither supper nor breakfast, and started next morning following the wagon track. Some time during the forenoon we came in sight of a covered wagon, and thought we would soon have something to eat. We neared the camp, and saw a large bull dog walking around the wagon and no man in sight. We passed on to the right of the wagon and went up the shore of the lake, where we found some black pawpaws hanging on the bushes. On these we made two or three meals. About sundown we were startled by the sharp report of a gun, on the bank of the lake, and walking in this direction we saw a white man who had killed a loon. He asked me if I were a good hand with a canoe, and upon answering him in the affirmative, he desired me to bring the loon out of the lake, as he said he did not know how to work the canoe himself. I laid my weapons off and he showed me a very small Indian canoe in the

willows. I got into one end of it and pushed loose, and as soon as I did this the canoe turned over, dropping me into the water. I got into the canoe again, this time about midway of the craft, and this time succeeded in bringing the water fowl to shore. We then accompanied the man to his camp, and soon after our arrival there, the other two men came in. They had been looking for a site upon which to build a cabin. They were brothers. We told them we came to look at the Missouri Bottom, and that we would like to stay at their fire over night, and get something to eat, to which they kindly assented. That night Abraham Sharp and Presley Hayes, from Sharp's Grove, came to the camp, looking for their cattle. The three brothers were named Higgins. That night the geese, cranes, swans, loons, ducks and owls made so much noise that we hardly slept. There appeared to be millions of them. We found a place to build a cabin. That night while in camp the eldest of the brothers told me if I would come back, after returning from Andrew County, he and his brothers would build me a cabin. We remained and assisted them to raise their cabins and then returned to Andrew County, going by way of where Bigelow and Mound City are now standing. We crossed the Big Tarkio two miles east, below Dodge's shanty. Someone had cut and felled a large cottonwood tree across the creek, which was used for crossing. When we arrived at the stream the water was high, covering the log about a foot; we, however, waded across on the log and wended our way toward Little Tarkio, being compelled to wade sloughs waist deep, and suffering with hunger. I shot a rabbit and roasted it in the willows, eating it without bread or salt. About dark, we reached John Hugh's place on Squaw Creek, and stayed all night at Ferguson's. We crossed the Nodaway River at Ellington's Ferry, passed west and south of where Fillmore now stands, in Andrew County, and stopped at James Bradford's, where I had stayed three weeks, and where I left my things. Here John and I parted never to meet again.

The next day I started back to Nodaway County, reached the Big Tarkio, and found its banks full. I made a raft principally out of sycamore logs and crossed the stream, and arrived at the cabin about dark, where I found the three brothers enjoying a good fire, in their new house. After supper they told me that they had concluded to go to Platte County after more cattle and requested me to remain at their cabin and take care of things while they were away. Soon after their departure about sixty Indians camped near me. I was out hunting one day and came in late and found six Indians standing near the cabin. One of them came running up to me with his tomahawk raised and thrust his hand into my shot pouch. I asked him what he wanted. He put his hand on the flint in my gun and smiled. I gave him two or three flints, when the other Indians came up and shook hands. We had no matches in those days. These

Indians came into the cabin that evening, but I could understand but little they said. Among them was an old chief—Monocahawk by name. They left about bed time and went to their wigwams. They were a small band of the Iowas, Sacs and Foxes. I could tell the different tribes by their wigwams, as each built them in a different manner.

I hunted a day or two with Monocahawk, when I became better acquainted with him; went to his wigwam where he tried to tell me of his relations; saw him play with his children, with whom he seemed to enjoy himself, as any fond father does with his children. I was always well treated by him and the Indians generally. They gave me the best they had to eat, and among other things, salt; this they did not use themselves. Their winter wigwams were made of elk or buffalo skins stretched over poles set in the ground, and fastened down all around, leaving a small hole at the top for the smoke to pass out. They put grass and leaves in the inside, except in the center, where they built a small fire. They then spread robes and blankets over the leaves and grass, making it warm and pleasant. The squaws were busy making moccasins and working into them porcupine quills. I saw them teaching their children to stand alone. They did this by using a stick about two feet in length, the child holding to one end while the other end was on the ground. Their children are taught to be quiet.

I noticed in some of their wigwams polecats cleaned and dressed as we do hogs. They made a choice dish among the Indians. We often saw deer, turkeys, coons, and prairie chickens lying around the tents, the result of a day's hunt. In going along in company with Monocahawk, when we would pass through good walnut timbered land, he would say, "Very good, chemuckman," meaning the whites liked this kind of land, and when we entered marshy land he would say "Pishconica," meaning not good; when we crossed a small stream of water he would say, "Petit Missouri," meaning little Missouri. The three brothers returned from Platte County about the 20th of November, 1841. Indians were still camped all through the Missouri bottom.

On the 25th of November, 1841, snow fell to the depth of fifteen inches, and the weather was very cold for three days, moderating some the third day. On that evening I killed a deer and Monocahawk came over to the camp for the head, with which he made soup. After this snow melted there was no more all winter, at least but very little. The lake froze and the fowls generally left. When shot at in the morning they would rise and fly and make a noise like thunder with their wings, and scream and pipe and shriek. Among these waterfowls was one bird which had no tongue, and is known as the pelican. This bird has a pouch under his bill, in which he can carry provisions enough to do him nearly a week. I have taken out of this pouch

five or six fish, from three to six inches in length. The swans made a trumpet like noise and were white, with black tips to their wings and were not quite as large as the pelican.

One day a man came from the bluffs, saying the owners of cattle in the Great Rush Bottom were going to meet in our cabin on a certain day to organize a company to drive the Indians across the Missouri River. On the day named the bluff men came riding on their mustang saddles, with rope stirrups, to the number of twenty-one. Some of these cattle men made me think of the cow-skin clad shepherds on the Nile. Some of them had buck hide pants, coon skin caps (tail and all) and flax shirts.

A cow had been killed by some person or persons, we could not tell whether by the whites or Indians, but supposed to have been done by the Indians. We fell into line and filed down the north bank of the lake, and were soon near enough to the Indians to throw out advanced skirmishers, who returned and reported that the Indians were out on a hunt. I felt better. When we surrounded the encampment, an old Indian man came out, in company with a young man, and told us that the warriors were all on a hunt. The Indians were given three days in which to leave. At the end of three days, I was sent out to see if they had gone. I found that they had all gone. They, however, returned occassionally on hunting expeditions.

In December, 1841, we were out hunting bees and hearing the sound of an ax, we went in that direction. We saw two squaws chopping a small honey locust for honey, and got down to help myself to the honey. The weather was warm for December and the bees were buzzing around the squaws in great numbers. I made a motion giving them to understand that I would cut the tree and take the honey out for them. They gave me an ax and I cut the tree down. They produced a dressed deer skin, which looked like a jar when filled with honey, and which was handy for carrying. While assisting these squaws, I hear a noise in the bush near, and looking around saw an Indian warrior well armed. He looked sullen, thinking we were perhaps taking the honey from the squaws. I took a piece of nice honey and gave it to him. At this he smiled and tried to talk. We mounted our horses and left and never saw them again.

Lewis and Clark say there were no bees above the mouth of the Osage River in 1804. They say, also, that a part of the Missouri River had its channel then where the Higgins Lake is, at the mouth of the Big Tarkio, making a large island, called St. Joseph's Island, the channel of which has since filled up. One evening before Monacahawk and party were ordered away he came to our cabin in company with five other Indians, and gave us to understand by signs, that some cattle were fast in the mud and mire of the lake. The next morning the Indians met us and

helped to get the cattle released from the slough. We did not know, at the time, to whom the cattle belonged, but in a few days a man came from Durbin's and brought us five or six plugs of tobacco, which had been sent us by Durbin for caring for his cattle.

One morning I was riding through the country and fell in company with a French Indian trader. I asked him why the Indians called the Nishnebotna, Big and Little Tarkio by those names. He said that in the Indian tongue, Nishnebotna meant a river where boats were built, or a boat building stream, and that Tarkio meant walnut, or a stream on which there were many walnuts. The Indian trader pointed to a streak of cottonwood timber, just below Hemme's Landing, on the Missouri River, and said that several years before the settlement of Platte Purchase there came a cold winter, which froze the Big Tarkio, except about a rod in the middle of the stream. There was a large herd of elk west on the prairie bottom, near that streak of timber, and immediately he saw emerging from the timber a great many Indians, all mounted on swift horses. They drove the elk in the direction of the Big Tarkio, some distance south of where he was at the time, and pursued them until they crowded into the stream by hundreds. Another party of Indians, previously stationed on the east side of the Big Tarkio in the timber, joined in the chase. The elk plunged into the water, but could not cross, on account of the opening in the ice. About 500 of the elk were caught and killed, furnishing the Indians with an abundance of meat that winter.

May, 1842. The youngest brother went to the bluffs this morning to ascertain the day of the week and get some meal. I went out and killed a deer. Snapping turtles are coming out of Impassable Lake, to lay their eggs. Two Indians came by on their ponies, and after they had passed I could hear them tomahawking the turtles on the banks of the lake. These they eat whenever they can get them. Some of the turtles in Impassable Lake were as large as a half bushel.

June, 1842. A steamboat is now lying at the mouth of the Nishnebotna, and destined for the Rocky Mountains, whither they go every season to bring down the furs purchased from the trappers and Indians. This boat has broken her shaft and another is expected from St. Louis. Our boys have hired some of the boat hands to make rails while they are waiting for the shaft. Three weeks passed before the shaft was sent. It came to Weston, Platte County, by steamboat and was brought from that poin in a Mackinaw boat. The steamer started, but getting aground a sandbar, as I afterwards learned, had to lay up all winter. It is still in June and I have been around Irish Grove getting acquainted and eating wheat bread without its being bolted. Plenty of milk and honey. I think Moses missed a good country.

One day I went to the Missouri River, where I saw a small, cleared field. I went through the high grass to look at the fence, to see what was planted, and, when reaching it, I saw on the inside of the field a monstrous looking dog barking at me. In the corner of the fence I saw a red Indian blanket spread out on the grass, and on it were two Indian babies, which appeared to be twins. At the far side of the field there was a man and woman planting corn. They looked as lonely as Adam and Eve did in the Garden of Eden. I passed on through the grass and found a cabin on the bank of the river. As I approached it all the dogs barked (those that were able for they were very poor), and a tall slender white woman, fair complexioned, came out looking friendly and invited me to have a stool. She was quite talkative and told me of her husband and the settlers. We built a cabin in section 18, township 63, range 40, now in Atchison County, near a spring at the foot of the bluffs, which was afterwards known as the "Bottom Farm." I went back to see the man in the cabin on the river bank and made arrangements with him to go over the Missouri River on a hunting expedition. The woman said she would be "darned" if she would stay home alone. We were to start in a month. In the meantime I had agreed to cut and split two thousand rails for the boys for two two-year-old steers; the rails at fifty cents per hundred, the steers to be taken at ten dollars each. My contract was performed and in July, 1842, I was on the river bank ready to help make the canoes in which we were to cross to the western shore. Others had heard of our intended hunt and joined us, some of them coming from Clay County. William Root and son came from Clay, and David Sempleton and son from Holt County. We were several days getting the canoes ready. The men from Clay County rode mules and they had to be taken over the river. We placed the canoes in the river, seven or eight feet apart, and connected them with puncheons, which we fastened to each, and, when thus arranged, they would carry our guns, tubs, buckets, mules and ourselves (six or seven men), leaving about two inches above the water. We reached the opposite shore in safety and all scattered, each taking his own course. I had not gone far into the hills before I saw a deer and killed it, and while I was dragging the deer towards a bush, a bee flew by my face and disappeared in a hole in a tree near me. I found six bee trees that day. Sempleton and son hunted for about a week and left for home. There were then six of us. We went further up the river and found bees in abundance, and had a "candy pull' in the white settlement. We went over the river again and took a hunt. I found thirty-two bee trees and the others found about the same number. We had seven barrels of honey. It took eleven bee trees to make a barrel of strained honey. While I was hunting over the river I saw a bundle of something about twenty feet above the ground in a tree. I climbed the tree and raised some bark; there were three layers of flags tied together, such as

Indians used for wigwams in the summer. These flags were wrapped around something which I found to be two nicely dressed buffalo skins. The skins I found enclosed the dead body of an Indian, having on his moccasins. Poles and bark were alternately laid over him, after wrapping him in the skin to prevent the buzzards from eating him.

There was great suffering in the Platte Purchase in the long winter of 1842-3. During the winter I grated part of my corn for meal, and ate about six or seven bushels of corn boiled and parched. I killed twenty-three deer that winter, and killed a number of turkeys as they walked through my door yard. The pioneers generally grated their corn in the fall for winter. One morning in the winter of 1843, a young man stopped at the cabin to warm. I asked him where he lived. He said "all around here." I knew he was a preacher. I learned that his name was Marvin—afterwards Bishop Marvin. R. H. Russell stayed all winter at our cabin in 1843.

April, 1843, I walked across Impassable Lake on the ice—ice two feet thick and snow knee deep. The flood was coming. About the 10th of April I got up one morning and saw that the lake looked muddy and had risen. It rained a good part of the time from April until July. This was the first overflow that we have any record of. I have seen the overflows of June, 1843, 1844 and 1881, and there was but little difference. After the overflow there was much sickness in the Missouri bottoms.

In 1843 a man living on Mill Creek, under the bluffs, went up in the hills to cut a log, and while coming down the hill, carrying his ax on his shoulder, his foot caught in the weeds, and he fell, cutting the calf of his leg severely. The wound was bleeding profusely when an Indian came along, and after looking a moment at the wound, went and pulled off some stems and leaves of the weeds growing near, and after chewing them a moment, applied them to the wound, and the blood ceased running in about two minutes. The Indian helped the man to his cabin, and after a while went out on the prairie and got another and different weed, chewed it, and applied in the same manner. The Indian remained with him a day or two, until the man began to get well. The Indian showed me the weeds he used; they do not grow here now.

In January, 1843, I went up the creek to look for a deer. In a very thick hazel thicket there lay a large log. It was no unusual thing to see turkeys on that log sunning themselves. Failing to get a deer that morning, I returned the same way on the opposite side of the thicket. Looking towards the log I saw, as I thought, three turkeys. I could not see his neck just as I wished, and hesitated about firing. At that moment an Indian raised his head, and I saw it was not a turkey. The Indians had just reached the spot and were scraping off the snow preparatory

to making a fire. I went up to them, when one of them handed me an old flint lock gun (eleven they had) and said to me by signs that the lock was "sick." I took the lock and found that the main spring was out of trim. I arranged it for them and it pleased them greatly. They made a fire and put their camp kettle on, and boiled a turkey. One of them took the entrails of the turkey, and after drawing them through his fingers, would put them into the kettle, and after boiling a few minutes, would take them out and eat them. I saw there was something in a man's raising, after all.

I was at Oregon one day, when Frank Nickol and L. W. Jones had a difficulty about a claim in Nickol's Grove, where they both lived. They had agreed to settle the trouble the first time they met in town. They met about where Niece's tin store (now the Variety Store) stands. We formed a ring around them by holding each other's hands. Each of the men had a second. These brave fellows took off their coats and shirts and when ready, they advanced, each upon the other and began the battle. Jones finally shouted enough, and they were parted. Nickols, of course, got the claim.

In 1844, after three of us had graduated in the tributaries of Impassable Lake, we concluded to go east. I told the boys I had been seeing steamboats ever since I recollected, but had never traveled on them. We accordingly got ready and walked to Weston, Platte County, making the trip in two and a half days. After our arrival, we went to a house of entertainment, and while eating dinner we heard a sharp, powerful scream, something like the scream of a panther. The landlord seeing I was very much alarmed, said the boat was coming, I asked him what kind of a boat. He said steamboat. We told him we wanted to go down the river, and asked him how they (the boats) made that noise. (I had never heard a steamboat whistle). He said one or two steamboats on the western waters had whistles. We asked him if the boat whistled often. He said only when she landed, left a port or met another boat. One of our party said he had traveled to New Orleans several times, and knew all about boats. This relieved me greatly, as I was totally ignorant of this mode of traveling. I imitated this comrade as closely as I could at the hotel. We walked out in town and a Jew came out of his store and took hold of my friend, and tried to induce him to go into his store and buy something. He jerked himself loose, and told the importunate vender of cheap clothing to go to h—l. I thought this a little rough, but said nothing, as I had not been in cities long enough to understand the habits and customs of the people, and did not know but that it was all right.

My comrade's name was Halloway. He was a scientific coon and muskrat hunter and had very active black eyes. Soon a man stepped up to me and asked me where I was going. I told

him we were going down the Missouri River, if we could strike a steamboat that would take us according to our money. He said he would like to go with us and in our mess. I said all right. As we walked towards the boat he said he had been in town a day or two waiting for a boat, and in traveling around town that day had cheated some fellow out of seventy-five cents. I thought him a little fast, as I had never seen him before, but as I had not traveled any in boats I did not say anything. Halloway and William Buffinbaugh were my comrades and this strange man remained close to me all the time. We reached the boat, and out came the clerk, a little red headed, neatly dressed man. When I saw who he was I rushed up to him, putting my hand on his shoulder, my comrades and the bystanders all gazing in wonder, when he looked around and instantly took my hand and said, "Where in the devil have you been so long?" I asked him where he had been so long, since we boarded together at a country tavern, east of the Black Swamps in Indiana. He said, "Steamboating." His name was Charles Mulford. He was then on a new boat, built at Pittsburg. This was her second or third trip. He told me that there were but two boats running on the western rivers that had whistles, and this boat was the first. He said steamboats had them on the eastern waters. I asked him when the boat would leave. He said at daylight in the morning, to the minute. I asked him what we could get to St. Louis for. He said we could go for $3.50 each, deck passage, and help wood, or $4.00 and not help. I told him we could not pay that, and asked him if he had ever seen this river rafted. He said no, and took me up in the boat and showed me a printed contract that all the boat hands had agreed to, and assured us if we waited for the next boat we could do no better, I asked permission to remain on the boat (lower deck) until morning. I told him I would vouch for my companions. He said all right. We concluded that we would go up in town and buy an outfit and wait and try the next boat. We started and this stranger still kept close to me. The other two went together. We bought a few tin cups, a coffee pot, tin plates, a ham of meat, some bread, etc. I told this stranger to pay for some of the things, and when we got out on the boat we would make it all right, and when the other boys came we would know each one's share. The stranger slept on the boat and left his clothes and things up in town. He had overpaid, more than one dollar, his share. On the lower deck the rooms for deck passengers were at the rear of the boat. Just after we got into our bunks, as they called them, the clerk rapped on mine and whispered to me that we could go down for $2.50 each and help wood. I said to him all right. I told my companions what the clerk had said, and that the boat would leave next morning. Just before day I saw the stranger walking about. I supposed he was going up town for his clothes, but I never saw him afterward, and do not know whether he took

anything or whether he was too slow in returning before the boat left.

I was not far from the whistle, when all at once, it sounded with such an unearthly shriek, that I came very near jumping into the river. Our boat started, and when we reached Blue Mills, an old Spaniard put $150,000 on the boat, in silver and gold. He was going to purchase goods. His money was in small, square boxes, encased in raw hide, and placed in the captain's quarters. We changed boats at St. Louis. We went through the canal at Louisville, Kentucky. While there the boys went up to see the giant, Porter. They got off the boat in Kentucky and I went on to Cincinnati.

CHAPTER V.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS—FIRST COURT HOUSE—SECOND COURT HOUSE—THIRD AND PRESENT COURT HOUSE—COURT HOUSE REMOVAL—BUILDING REMODELED—JAILS—PUBLIC SQUARE—COUNTY POOR FARM.

Notwithstanding the fact that a large number of the people in every county have very little practical experience in the courts and although they have the legal capacity to sue and be sued, never improve their opportunities, and never appear in court unless it be on compulsion as witnesses or jurors, yet as the one great conservator of peace and as the final arbiter in the case of individual or neighborhood disputes, the court is distinguished above and apart from all and every other institution of the land, and not only the proceedings of the court, but the place of holding court is a matter of interest to the average reader. Not only so, but in many counties the court house was the first and usually the only public building in the county. These first court houses were not very elaborate buildings, to be sure, but they are enshrined in memories that the present never can know. Their uses were general, rather than special, and so constantly were they in use day and night when court was in session, and, when it was not in session, for judicial, educational, religious and social purpoes that the doors of those court houses, like the gates of gospel peace, stood open night and day, and the small amount invested in those old logs returned a much better rate of interest on the investment than do those stately piles of brick and granite which have taken their places.

The memorable court house of early times was a house adapted to a variety of uses, and had a career of great usefulness. School was taught, the gospel preached and justice dispensed within its substantial walls. Then it served frequently as a resting place for weary travelers, and indeed its doors always swung on easy hinges. In the old court house were located the several county offices. In it met that assemblage known as the district court, where the vocal, and not unfrequently muscular pioneer attorneys had full scope for the employment of varied powers, both physical and intellectual.

But not only as a court room was the old building used. If the old settlers are to be believed, this rude structure often rang on the pioneer Sabbath, with a more stirring eloquence than enlivens the pulpits of the present time. Many of the earliest ministers have officiated within its walls, and if these old walls could speak, they would tell many a strange tale of pioneer religion, that is now lost forever. The old court house ministers came of different faiths, but all eager to expound the simple

truths of a sublime and beautiful religion, and point out for comparison the thorny path of duty and the primrose path of dalliance. Often have those old walls given back the echoes of those who sang the songs of Zion, and many an erring wanderer has had his heart moved to repentance thereby, more strongly than ever, by the strains of homely eloquence.

With Monday morning the old building changed its character and men came there seeking not the mercy of God, but the justice of man. The scales were held with an even hand. Fine points of law were often ignored, but those who presided knew every man in the county, and they dealt out substantial justice, and the broad principles of natural equity prevailed. Children came there to school, and sat at the feet of teachers who knew but little more than themselves; but, however humble the teacher's acquirements, he was hailed as a wise man and a benefactor, and his lessons were heeded with attention. There were people of the county went to discuss their own affairs, and learn the news so far away to the eastward. In addition to the orderly assemblies which formally gathered there, other meetings no less memorable occurred. It was a sort of forum, whither all classes of people went for the purpose of loafing and gossiping and telling and hearing something new.

As a general thing the first court house, after having served the purpose of its erection, was torn down and conveyed to the rear of some remote lot, and thereafter was made to serve the purpose of an obscure cow stable in some dark alley. There is little of the poetic and romantic in the makeup of western society and the old court, after it was superceded by a more elaborate and showy structure, ceased to be regarded with reverence and awe. It was then looked upon as only the aggregation of so many hickory or oak logs, and the practical eye of the modern citizen could see nothing in it, but the aforesaid logs, and, in his estimate of its value, calculations relative to the number of horses, hogs, or number of bushels of grain, which these reconstructed logs would accommodate, were the only conditions bearing on those estimates.

In a new country, where every energy of the people is necessarily employed in the practical work of earning a living, and the always urgent and ever present question of bread and butter is up for solution, people cannot be expected to devote much time to the poetic and ideal. It therefore followed that nothing was retained, as a useless relic, which could be turned to some useful account, but it is a shame that people of modern time have such little reverence for the relics of former days. After these houses ceased to be available for business purposes and their removal was determined on, they should have been taken to some other part of the town or city and located on some lot, purchased by public subscription, where they might have remained to have

at least witnessed the semi-centennial of the country's history. It is sad, that in their haste to grow rich, so few have care, even for the early work of their own hands. How many of the early settlers have preserved their first habitations? The sight of that humble cabin would be a source of consolation in old age, as it reminded the owner of the trials and triumphs of other times, and its presence would go far toward reconciling the coming generation with theirs, when comparing its humble appearance with the modern residences, whose extensive apartments are beginning to be too unpretentious for the enterprising and irrepressible young American.

At the November term, 1841, of the county court the following was issued: "Ordered that R. M. Barkhurst be appointed superintendent for building a court house in the town of Oregon, and that he let the same to the lowest bidder on the 13th day of the present month, at the house of G. Ray."

At the December term, 1841, held at the house of G. Ray, it was "Ordered, as the order passed at the last term of said court was not entered of record. it is now ordered to-wit: Ordered that a court house be built in the town of Oregon, in Holt County, of the following description and dimensions: A frame house, 20x26 feet, two stories high, to be set on a rock wall eighteen inches thick and thirty inches high, eighteen inches thereof under ground, and that above ground to be laid in lime mortar; the sills to be 8x10 inches square, the posts to be eight inches square, rabbitted. The first story nine feet high in the clear, with three windows, two of which to contain fifteen lights each, and one of twelve lights, the glass of all to be 10x12 inches. One outside door, to be folding panel of three feet eight inches wide, one and one-half inchs thick, a transom sash over it with four lights, the glass 10x12. One flight of winding stairs, neatly cased up, and stair door paneled. The weather-boarding to be of walnut plank, five-eights of an inch thick jointed. The second story to be seven feet in the clear, with three windows of twelve lights each 10x12 inches; with two rooms in the upper story, with a ledge door leading from head of the stairs into each of the other rooms; all the doors to be neatly cased up, etc.; with sufficient locks to each door; the roof to be of walnut shingles; a trap door in the ceiling leading to the garret; the floors to be of oak plank, one inch thick, well seamed, etc.; the whole house to be lathed and plastered inside, two coats and a whitewash; the entire building to be completed by June 10, 1842, and to be set up on lot 5, in block 7, in the town of Oregon, fronting twenty feet on Nodaway street and twenty-six on Washington street."

At the same time it was ordered that the sum of $659 dollars be appropriated for the building of said court house to be paid out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, arising out of the sale of lots in the town of Oregon.

The contract for building this house was let to Jesse Carroll. The appliances for facilitating labor in those days, were few, and not everything was readily attainable in this primitive condition of things in the country, and the contractor was under the necessity of asking an extension of time, wherein to complete the house, which extension was granted by the court. We also find by an order issued July 6, 1842, that the contractor of the court house was authorized to make an additional door and five windows, and to make moulding to the doors and windows, to make shutters to the windows, etc.; for all which said work, he was "to charge a reasonable price."

On the 3d day of October, 1842, R. M. Barkhurst, superintendent of the building of the court house, in the town of Oregon, reported to the county court, that having examined the work done by Jesse Carroll, the contractor, he finds the same done according to contract, except a coat of whitewash, which said contractor agreed to have done immediately. Whereupon, the court ordered that the building be received.

SECOND COURT HOUSE.

Before the lapse of the first decade in the county's history, its progress and growing importance seemed to warrant the erection of a temple of justice more in harmony with its advancing fortunes, and, in October, 1850, a second court house was determined on. Accordingly, on the first day of November term, 1850, the contract for a brick building forty-four feet square and two stories high was let to H. Watson for $4,995. Judges Watson, Gibson and Dozier, then occupied the county bench. The building was a plain but neat structure, with hip roof and stood in the center of the beautiful public square, for which the town of Oregon is justly and widely celebrated. Further appropriations to properly complete the structure raised the entire cost to about $6,000. The foundation for this court house was surveyed by S. C. Collins.

THE THIRD COURT HOUSE.

Early in the summer of 1881, it was determined by the county court, in obedience to the wish of a large majority of the taxpayers, to erect a new court house, or rather to remodel and reconstruct the old building which had stood for thirty years, no discreditable monument of the enterprise and progressive spirit of the day and generation in which it was built. Accordingly at the May term, 1881, the contract was let to Moses Bennett, for the erection of three new additions and the remodeling of the court house of the city of Oregon, for the sum of $8,500. Subsequently a further sum of eleven hundred dollars was appropriated to properly complete the structure. The work of taking

down the old building was commenced early in June, and the business of reconstructing immediately followed, under the direction of Levi Zook, architect and superintendent. By the 13th of December, 1881, the edifice was completed, received by the court and occupied. With the exception of the foundation and portion of the brick wall of the first story the building was entirely new and no vestige of the original house was recognizable in the elegant structure whose faultless proportions graced the site of the comparatively homely building which till recently stood on its foundations.

At first glance, the new court house suggested the idea of a Greek cross, so nearly equibrachial is its ground plan. Careful observation, however, reveals the fact that such is not the case. The main building was forty-five feet square. In the center of the north front, the area of the base of the tower, which rises to an altitude of about seventy-five feet to the head of the eagle which crowns its summit, was fifteen feet square. Near the middle of the east, and also of the west side of the building, was a projection fifteen feet by twenty-two, extending to and taking in the second and mansard stories. In the center of the south side, which was the rear of the building, was another extension fifteen feet in length and projecting nine feet. Approaching the building by the front or north entrance the fifteen by fifteen foot vestibule, which constituted the ground floor of the tower, paved with stone slabs, revealed the presence of a massive and elegant double stair case leading on either hand to the upper stories. The bannister and newels of this staircase were of black walnut, elegant in design and massive in construction. A hall ten feet wide ran from the north to the south vestibule. On the west side of this hall, with windows looking north and west was the circuit clerk's office, a room twenty-six by sixteen feet. South of this, on the same side of the hall was the probate court room sixteen feet square, with a window looking southward and another westward. Both these rooms opened into the extension above described, fifteen by twenty feet, which was a fireproof room designed for the accommodation of vault and safes of the two offices. The rooms on the east, or opposite side of the hall were of corresponding size and similar proportions and appointments and accommodated respectively, the larger the county clerk's office, and the smaller, the county collector's office. Like their neighbors on the opposite side of the hall, both these rooms opened into a fireproof vault, fifteen by twenty-two feet in dimensions, located in the east extension.

The ceiling of the ground floor was ten feet in the clear. Ascending to the second floor, a double swinging folding door, of handsome design opened from the stair landing into the circuit court room, a spacious apartment, forty-five feet square, with a fourteen and a half foot ceiling. In the center of the rear end of the room was an alcove nine feet deep and fifteen

long, directly over the south or rear vestibule, of corresponding size. Two lateral apartments, one on the east and another on the west side of the room accommodate themselves to the proportions of the vault or safe rooms below.

The third or mansard story, from the nature of its design, was somewhat smaller than the area of the lower floors. Its dimensions were thirty-nine feet square, and the lateral rooms or recesses of the same were of correspondingly reduced proportions.

The external appearance of the building was no less attractive in the harmony of its proportions, than the internal construction and appointments of the same, while the faultless taste displayed in the light relieved by dark drab coloring, with which the walls were painted, and fanciful coloring of the mansard roof, rendered the building not only striking in appearance, but sufficiently up to the standard of correct taste to meet the approval of the most fastidious critics. Near the summit of the tower were four circular dial spaces, four and a half feet diameter, and facing the cardinal points. A clock was to have been placed in the tower, at a later date. The handsome weather cock which crowned the summit of this clock tower, was not unworthy of passing notice. The design is an elaborately gilt eagle, with extended wings, measuring four feet from tip to tip. It was purchased in Detroit, Michigan, and placed in position at an expense of about fifty dollars.

Though there were many court houses in the country at that time which were much larger and which perhaps cost many times the expense of erecting this building, Holt County enjoys the satisfaction of possessing not only the cheapest structure of the kind in the state, considering its actual value, but one which compares in point of external appeparance with the best in the land.

The records of the adjourned term of the county court, under date of December 13, 1881, set forth the following in reference to the new court house.

"Said Levi Zook not having made any charge for his services as superintendent of the improvements on said court house, the county court hereby tender to the said Levi Zook their sincere thanks for this faithful and attentive supervision of said improvements."

COURT HOUSE REMOVAL—BUILDING REMODELED.

In times past when interest in public affairs showed an inclination to lag the agitation for the removal of the court house to Mound City has often come to the fore. There has been a

spirited rivalry between Oregon and Mound City for many years and the county seat question has been at the bottom of most of it.

Mound City, claiming that it being the larger town and situated on a line of railroad, should be entitled to the county seat. The agitation continued for a number of years in one form and another. Some very good people became estranged from some very good friends over the arguments which took place on this subject. Oregon's side of the argument was to the effect that the move was entirely unnecessary and that the money it would cost would be a foolish expenditure of funds.

The matter came to a climax when a petition for the removal of the court house to Mound City was filed with the county court July 24, 1907. It was signed by the required number of voters and, although the proposition was opposed by attorneys for the City of Oregon, the court ordered the matter submitted to the qualified voters of the county at the regular election in 1908. The result of the vote showed 1,935 for the removal and 1,748 against it. As a two-thirds majority was required the proposition was lost.

Although the court house that had served up to that time had been considered amply sufficient for all needs at the time it was built, the growth of the county, including the increase in population, made imperative the necessity for more room for the public officials and a more modern building for their use.

Several efforts to have the structure overhauled or remodeled at public expense having failed, the citizens of Oregon took the matter in their own hands and raised the necessary money with which to make the improvement. On July 5, 1911, there appeared before the county court a delegation of citizens headed by C. D. Zook, Mrs. Lizzie Roecker, T. C. Dungan and others, who represented 160 citizens of Oregon and vicinity. They offered the court a donation of $10,000 with which to rebuild the temple of justice. The offer was accompanied by a certified check for $8,530 which amount was to be placed in the county treasury and expended by the county court. Tentative plans for the improvements were presented.

The offer of the people of Oregon brought forth a protest from taxpayers in the northern part of the county. An objecting petition was presented to the county court July 14, 1911, by James Kennish, F. E. Burnett and others in which it was claimed that the donation was unlawful and that the only way the building could be improved was by the expenditure of public funds. It was further claimed that the donation was made for selfish purposes by the donors who lived and had property in Oregon. The whole proceeding was characterized a selfish enterprise.

The court, however, accepted the offer and the contract for

remodeling the court house was let August 28, 1911, to Charles Harrison, general contractor. It was signed by H. E. Wright, presiding judge of the county court and by Charles D. Zook, who had been named as superintendent of construction. The contract price was $5,050 and the plans were made by Eckel & Aldrich of St. Joseph. The work included a four-room addition on the south, including two vaults, basement and a sky light in the circuit court room. A sub-contract provided for a low pressure heating plant at a cost of $2,300. This work was done by the Bragg-Munn Hardware Company of Oregon.

After the rebuilding of the structure the arrangement of the several offices was considerably changed. Entering the building from the north one finds the offices of the circuit clerk and recorder the first to the right of the entrance. The first office to the left is the county collector. The second office to the right is the probate judge and the second to the left is the county treasurer, county clerk and county court. The second floor is taken up principally by the circuit court room. To the left of this room is the quarters of the county surveyor and ex-officio highway engineer. The sheriff and prosecuting attorney have their offices in the southeast corner of the second story.

EARLY MEMBERS OF THE BAR.

Among the attorneys who practiced at the Holt County bar in the early days were: Peter H. Burnett, Benjamin Hays, Solomon L. Leonard, James Baldwin, Elias P. West, James Foster, John C. Morris, Robert Wilson, Henry M. Vories, Clarke Irvine, Silas Woodson, E. Van Buskirk, Prince L. Hudgens, Edwin Toole, Sandford M. Hastings, John M. Young, Theodore D. Wheaton, James Craig, Frank Warmcastle, W. P. Hall, Isaac C. Parker, Elijah Norton, Daniel Zook, James B. Gardenhire, James S. Thomas, Frederick Greenough, Christopher P. Brown, John W. Kelly, George W. Crow, Alex. W. Doniphan, Benjamin Loan, Sam Word, John Collins and Robert M. Stewart.

Some of these lawyers afterward gained renown and prominence in other cities. Many of them have held high places in their profession after leaving Holt County.

JAILS.

The first jail in the county was a log structure at the county seat. It stood in block eight, one block from the northeast corner of the court house square, and was put up by Jesse Carroll shortly after the completion of the first court house.

The second jail was built in 1859, of stone, and in 1876 it was remodeled with brick, the building being enlarged and otherwise improved in light and ventilation. The architect in each

instance was Jesse Carroll. The jail occupies the southeast corner of the public square, is two stories high and contains six rooms, two of which are cells for prisoners. The jailer and his family reside in the building.

PUBLIC SQUARE.

One of the most attractive features of the town of Oregon is the public square of two and a half acres, in the center of which the neat and substantial structure of the present court house rears its elegant proportions.

In an early day E. Van Buskirk, Esq., was appointed court yard commissioner, and under his instructions the ground was plowed up and set in blue grass. The county, however, made no appropriation for further improvement than building, in 1852, a fence around its limits.

The presence of the beautiful grove which envelops the entire area of the park in a dense shade when the trees are clothed with foliage is due to the voluntary and individual enterprise of the citizens of the town. In 1856 at the instance chiefly of William Zook the square was set in cottonwoods. In the dry season of that year most of these perished, only a few, indeed, surviving. In the following year the citizens, headed by J. Levy—later a resident of Omaha, and, at that time, bookkeeper for Peter & Ovelman, merchants of Oregon—turned out and determined that their court yard should be planted with at least one specimen of every tree indigenous to the county. This idea was promptly acted upon and enlarged. Not only were there native trees, but several foreign varieties were planted in this charming enclosure. A few varieties have died and some of the larger cottonwoods have been culled out. The whole number planted amounted to about two hundred and forty. Many of these trees attained a height of from forty to fifty feet, and the whole, in the summer season, affords a shade so dense as to almost entirely obscure the view of the building from the surrounding streets. The old plank fence built around the park by the county in 1852 gave place in the spring of 1877 to an elegant balustrade enclosing the entire area and protected by an external chain. This was erected chiefly by the liberality of the citizens of the town and was completed at a cost of $1,200. An iron fence was built around the square in 1896. It did duty until 1916 when the streets surrounding the park were paved by the town of Oregon. The elevation of the site of the court house is 1,113 feet above the sea level.

HOLT COUNTY POOR FARM.

In the spring of 1873 a tract of 145 acres in Lewis Township, one mile northwest of Oregon, was purchased from Jeptha Martin, and a spacious and comfortable two-story brick house erected

thereon, for the purpose of affording a retreat for the poor and afflicted of the county, who were unable to maintain themselves. The entire cost of the farm and improvements was $10,077. It is claimed that no county has had better success in securing faithful and efficient managers. The first superintendent appointed was J. G. Cottrell. He served till 1877, when he was succeeded by Adolph Ware, who continued to manage the institution till 1879, when Philip Kollmer was appointned. He served until 1886. He was succeeded by George Reeves, 1886-1887; N. L. Pierce, 1887-1891; Alf Gentry, 1891-1893; G. W. Foster, 1893-1895; A. J. Carson, 1895-1904; Sebourn Carson, 1904-1913; Chris Fuhman 1913-1917.

In 1902 eighty acres adjoining the original track was purchased from F. S. Noland.

CHAPTER VI.

COMPLETE ROSTER OF COUNTY OFFICIALS FROM THE FOUNDING OF THE COUNTY DOWN TO THE PRESENT DATE.—FEW CHANGES MADE IN NAMES OF OFFICES IN FIFTY YEARS.

COUNTY COURTS.

The following composed the county courts of Holt County from first organization of the same, in March, 1841:

From March, 1841, to September, 1841, Harmon G. Noland, Joshua Adkins and James Crowley.

From September, 1841, to September, 1842, Harmon G. Noland, James Crowley and James Kimsey.

From September, 1842, to July, 1845, John W. Kelley, John Stewart and James Kimsey.

From July, 1845, to October, 1845, John W. Kelley, James Kimsey and Samuel Watson.

From October, 1845, to October, 1850, Samuel Watson, T. V. Dickey and John Gibson.

From October, 1850, to February, 1854, Samuel Watson John Gibson and John Dozier.

From February, 1854, to May, 1854, John Dozier and John Gibson.

From May, 1854, to November, 1854, John Dozier, Samuel R. Canon and Michael Myrd.

From November, 1854, to June, 1860, Samuel R. Canon, William L. Gordon and John F. Williams.

From June, 1860, to March, 1862, John F. Williams, B .B. Frazer and J. P. Harris.

From March, 1862, to May, 1862, John F. Williams, J. P. Harris and R. H. Russell.

From May, 1862, to February, 1863, R. H. Russel, Andrew Meyer and I. H. Iddings.

From February, 1863, to March, 1865, R. H. Russel, I. H. Iddings and Harvey L. Williams.

From March, 1865, to May, 1865, R. H. Russel, George Blair and Harvey L. Williams.

From May, 1865, to December, 1866, A. J. Evans, George McIntyre and Samuel Thompson.

From December, 1866, to December, 1870, George McIntyre, Solomon Lehmer and George P. Skeels.

From December, 1870, to December, 1872, George P. Skeels, Richard Collison and Solomon Lehmer.

From December, 1872, to December, 1874, George P. Skeels, Richard Collison and George Anderson.

From December, 1874, to December, 1878, Richard Collison, George Anderson and Daniel VanWormer.

From December, 1878, to December, 1880, Thomas W. McCoy, W. H. Poynter and Henry Bungenstock.

December, 1880—Bruce Earl, Daniel Hiatt and James R. Bradford.

December, 1882—Benjamin F. Flemming, James E. Wilson, Bruce Earl.

December, 1884—Benjamin F. Flemming, Geo. W. Quick, Jas. E. Wilson.

December, 1886—Geo. W. Hibbard, Wm. A. Springer, Jas. D. Goodpasture.

December, 1888—Geo. W. Hibbard, Henderson L. Ward, Wm. A. Springer.

December, 1890—Geo. Holton, Henderson L. Ward, Arthur W. Van Camp.

December, 1892—Geo. Holton, Benjamin F. Morgan, Joseph Wise.

December, 1894—Asa Turpin, Benj. F. Morgan, Joseph Wise.

December, 1896—Asa Turpin, Benj. F. Morgan, Joseph Wise.

December, 1898—Chas. A. Doughty, Benj. F. Morgan, Joseph Wise.

December, 1900—Chas. A. Doughty, Gilbert W. Pullen, Martin L. Norman.

December, 1902—Jacob Wehrli, Gilbert W. Pullen, Wm. H. Allen.

December, 1904—Jacob Wehrli, Henry E. Wright, Geo. W. Cotten.

December, 1906—Henry E. Wright, Geo. W. Cotten, John H. Hunt.

December, 1908—Henry E. Wright, Philip Schlotzhauer, John H. Hunt.

December, 1910—Henry E. Wright, Philip Schlotzhauer, Francis J. Gaskill.

December, 1912—Henry E. Wright, Martin L. Norman, Peter H. Raiser.

December, 1914—David C. Stallard, Peter H. Raiser, Martin L. Norman.

Dcember, 1916—David C. Stallard, C. B. Whitman, W. J. Randall.

CIRCUIT JUDGE.

The office of circuit judge was first, as above stated, filled by the appointment, in 1841, of General David R. Atchison, who served till 1843. The other judges, in succession, have been: Henderson Young, from 1843 to 1846; Solomon L. Leanord, 1846 to 1851; William B. Almond, 1851 to 1852; Elijah H. Norton, 1852 to 1860; Silas Woodson, 1860 to 1864; William Heren, 1864 to 1869; Isaac C. Parker, 1869 to 1871; Bennett Pike, 1871 to

1872; Henry S. Kelley, 1872 to 1887; C. A. Anthony, 1887 to 1899; Gallatin Craig, 1899 to 1903; Judge Craig resigned because of ill health and Judge W. C. Ellison was appointed to serve the unexpired term.

Judge Ellison was elected in 1904 and served until 1913, when Judge Alonzo D. Burnes came on the bench in this circuit by reason of a change in the boundaries made by the legislature. Judge Burnes is the present (1916) incumbent.

COUNTY CLERK.

The first election for county clerk occurred in 1852. Their names and terms of office were as follows: Alfred B. Mullins, from 1853 to 1856; James Scott, from 1856 to 1865; Warren B. Davis, from 1865 to 1870; Albert Roecker, from 1870 to 1875; John H. C. Curtis, from 1875 to 1882. He was followed by: Cave J. Hunt, 1882-1886; Daniel Kunkel, Jr., 1886-1890; Robert C. Benton, 1890-1894; John H. C. Curtis, 1894-1898; Enoch A. Welty, 1898-1906; Frank L. Zeller, 1906-1914; Daniel B. Kunkel, 1914—.

CIRCUIT CLERK.

The following have filled the office of circuit clerk: Andrew S. Hughes, from March, 1841 to June, 1841; Bayless B. Grigsby, from June, 1841 to 1846; John Collins, 1846 to 1853; E. VanBuskirk, 1853 to 1865; A. N. Ruley (appointed), 1865 to 1866; E. L. Allen, 1866 to 1874; William A. Gardner, 1874 to 1878; W. R. Springer, 1878 to 1882; David S. Alkire, 1882 to 1890; Governeur Morris, 1890 to 1898; Geo. W. Hogrefe, 1898 to 1904 (died); Robt. G. Ruley, 1904 to 1906, appointed by governor; Fred W. Cook, 1906 to 1910; Edwin A. Dunham 1910 to —.

CIRCUIT ATTORNEY—PROSECUTING ATTORNEY.

I. N. Jones, 1846; L. Archer, 1849; James Craig, 1852; J. M. Bassett, 1857; Joseph P. Grubb, 1862; I. C. Parker, 1864; Jeff Chandler, 1866 and B. K. Davis, 1868. The office of circuit attorney was abolished before the term of B. K. Davis expired.

In 1878 the office again came into existence under the name of prosecuting attorney. It has been filled by the following named: Luke R. Knowles, 1878 to 1882; Samuel F. O'Fallon, 1882 to 1884; Robert I. Rea, 1884 to 1887 (died); Henry Shutts, 1887 to 1888 (appointed by governor); John Kennish, 1888 to 1890; Wm. E. Stubbs, 1890 to 1892; Geo. W. Murphy, 1892 to 1896; Luke R. Knowles, 1896 to 1897 (died); Wm. E. Stubbs, 1897 to 1898 (appointed by governor); Ivan Blair, 1898 to 1902; Frank Petree, 1902 to 1904; Ivan Blair, 1904 to 1906; Geo. C.

Price, 1906 to 1908; Henry Tebbs Alkire, 1908 to 1912; A. M. Tibbels, 1912 to —.

RECORDER.

William F. Taylor, the first to fill the office of recorder of Holt County, was elected to that position in 1874. Mr. Soper, on the resignation of Taylor, in 1878, was appointed to the position, which he continued to hold till the election of his successor, Daniel Zachman in 1878. He entered upon the duties of his office January 1, 1879, and served until 1882, since which time the following named have held this office: Robert Lyons, 1882 to 1885 (died); John W. Stokes, 1885 to 1886 (appointed by governor); Alphonso C. Morgan, 1886 to 1890; Daniel P. Lewis, 1890 to 1894; Charles C. Moore, 1894 to 1898; James E. Weller, 1898 to 1902; James R. Callow, 1902 to 1906; John Speer, 1906 to 1910; John M. Hibbard, 1910 to 1914; Andrew O. Dankers, 1914 to —.

SHERIFFS.

The following have been sheriffs of Holt County during the periods annexed to their names: Richard M. Barkhurst, from 1841 to 1842; Robert H. Russel, from 1842 to 1846; Frank M. Polluck, from 1846 to 1850; William D. Beeler, from 1850 to 1854; John L. Dozier, from 1854 to 1856; Galen Crow, from 1856 to 1860; Robert G. Emmerson, from 1860 to 1862; William Kaucher, from 1862 to 1866; Albert Roecker, from 1866 to 1870; Moses M. Smith, from 1870 to 1872; William G. McIntyre, from 1872 to 1874; Stephen F. Lucas, from 1874 to 1878; Wm. H. Frame, from 1878 to 1882; Amos J. Castle, from 1882 to 1884; James E. Cummins, from 1884 to 1894; Chas R. Edwards, from 1894 to 1898; John F. Ramsey, from 1898 to 1902; Jas. A. Williams, from 1902 to 1906; Alfred A. McNulty, from 1906 to 1912 (changed from two to four year term); G. E. Gelvin, from 1912 to 1916; B. E. Crouser, from 1916 to —.

COLLECTORS.

Up to the year 1872, the sheriff of the county was ex-officio collector. The first elected to the latter office on its separation was Moses M. Smith, who served from 1872 to 1874; succeeded by William G. McIntyre, from 1874 to 1876; Samuel Morrison, from 1876 to 1878; Fred Meyer, from 1878 to 1880; Samuel Morrison, from 1880 to 1882; Peter P. Welty, from 1882 to 1886; Wm. M. Boyer, from 1886 to 1888; Geo. H. Allen, from 1888 to 1892; Milton C. Brumbaugh, from 1892 to 1896; Joseph J. Pierce, from 1896 to 1900; Nicholas Stock, from 1900 to 1904; Albert Smith, from 1904 to 1905 (died); Jas. D. Thompson, from

1905 to 1906 (appointed by governor); Geo. F. Seeman, from 1906 to 1910 (changed from two to four year term); Howard S. Teare, from 1910 to 1914; Wm. H. Alkire, from 1914 to —.

PROBATE JUDGE.

By an act passed by the Legislature during the session of 1868-69, the office of probate judge was created in and for Holt County. At the fall election of 1869, R. H. Russel was elected to the position and entnered upon his duties, January, 1870. Notwithstanding the fact that Holt County was largely Republican, he was continuously, though a Democrat, re-elected to the office until 1882. Since that time the following named have held this office: Luke R. Knowles, 1882 to 1884; Samuel F. O'Fallon, 1890 to 1894; Henry T. Alkire, 1894 to 1898; Geo. W. Murphy, 1898 to 1902; Henry T. Alkire, 1902 to 1906; Geo. W. Murphy, 1906 to 1909 (died); David W. Porter, 1909 to 1910 (appointed by governor); David W. Porter, 1910 to 1914; Harry M. Dungan, 1914 to —.

COUNTY TREASURER.

Gilbert Ray was the first to hold the office of treasurer of Holt County. He was appointed at the September term of the county court, 1841.

The records next show the selection of Thos. Kreek, 1878 to 1880; John Bucher, 1880 to 1886; E. L. Allen, 1886 to 1888; F. L. Zeller, 1888 to 1890; Geo. B. Chadduck, 1890 to 1892; E. C. Meyer, 1892 to 1896; Clark O. Proud, 1896 to 1900; Lewis I. Moore, 1900 to 1904; G. W. Cummins, 1904 to 1908; Neville Dixon, 1908 to 1912; Sebourn Carson, 1912 to —.

REPRESENTATIVE.

R. M. Barkhurst was the first representative in the Legislature from Holt County. He was elected in 1842. The following named have held this office: Stephen Cooper, 1844; James Craig, 1846; James Foster, 1848; James Kelley, 1850-1854; Samuel Watson, 1856; Samuel R. Young, 1858; Galen Crow, 1860; R. D. Markland, 1862; A. G. Hollister, 1864; Ira C. Busick, 1866; John H. Glenn, 1868; H. K. S. Robinson, 1870-1872; John Schrantz, 1874; R. D. Markland, 1876; Bryant O. Cowan, 1878; James Limbird, 1880; Jonas Watson, 1882; Edgar J. Kellogg, 1884; L. R. Knowles, 1886; H. T. Alkire, 1888; William A. Gwinn, 1890; N. F. Murray, 1892-1894; S. F. O'Fallon, 1896-1898; George W. Hibbard, 1900; S. F. O'Fallon, 1902; Frank Allen, 1904; George W. Glick, 1906; H. L. Ward, 1908; H. B. Lawrence (to fill vacancy) 1909-1910; W. R. Swope, 1912-1914; John H. Kunkel, 1916.

SENATORS.

Ed. Kelly, Gen. R. A. Wilson, William Herron, 1862; P. A. Thompson, 1864; D. Bonham, 1866; M. G. Roseberry, 1868; A. E. Wyatt, 1872; Thomas H. Parrish, 1876; T. C. Dungan, 1880; John Kennish, 1892. These are the only senators from Holt County elected to represent this senatorial district.

COUNTY SURVEYOR.

The first county surveyor, appointed by the county court, was David Templeton, 1841. In 1842 he was elected to the same office, which he filled till 1846, when he was succeeded by S. C. Collins, who held the office, by continuous re-election, for twenty years, at the end of which period he positively declined the position, for the duties of which he had so long proved himself eminently fitted. In 1866 Franklin Davis was elected his successor. He, however, died in office and Jason Marshall was appointed his successor. William McCoy, in turn succeeded him, followed by William Morris, who was re-elected in 1880 and served until 1896. Then followed Columbus G. Landon, 1896 to 1904; William M. Morris, 1904 to 1908; John H. Peret, 1908 to —.

COUNTY ASSESSOR

There seems to have been no arrangement made, at the time the county court was organized, for the assessment of real estate and personal property in Holt County. At least the records contain no reference to this office until about three years later.

John Collins was the first assessor. He took charge of the office in 1844 and continued to serve until 1846, when he was succeeded by James Scott. Richard Brown assumed the duties of the office in 1853 and P. M. Loucks, on the year following.

Others who have filled this office are: J. J. Thompson, 1856; S. C. Collins, 1860; J. J. Ingraham, 1866; Robert P. Ruley, 1870; Harvey E. Burnett, 1872; Reuben Downey, 1876; George Burnett, 1878; Lucius P. Graham, 1880; George W. Hibbard, 1882; Lucius P. Graham, 1886; A. G. Weber, 1888; F. C. Meadows, 1892; Fred E. Burnett, 1894; W. E. Weightman, 1900; William Fitzmaurice, 1904; P. W. Ramsey, 1908; Alfred A. Meyer, 1916.

SCHOOL COMMISSIONER.

The duties of this office were, at first, performed by the circuit clerk, and after the creation of the office of county clerk, by the latter officer.

Since 1865, when it was made a separate office, the position has been filled as follows: Edgar L. Allen, from 1865 to 1866; Stephen Blanchard, from 1866 to 1870; Frank Gordon, from 1870 to 1872; Erastus Eyerly, from 1872 to 1875; Edward Anibal, from 1877 to 1879; John Anderson, from 1879 to 1883; W. F. Drake, from 1883 to 1885; James F. Kellogg, from 1885

to 1889; W. S. Dearmont, from 1889 to 1893; F. L. Maxwell, from 1893 to 1899; Jno. V. Crosen, from 1899 to 1901; A. O. Williams, from 1901 to 1903; A. R. Coburn, from 1903 to 1907. The name of the office was changed at the conclusion of A. R. Coburn's term to Superintendent of Public Schools. George W. Reavis was the first to hold the new office. He was succeeded by Earl Rock in 1915, who turned the office over to Mrs. Alberta G. Murphy the same year.

CHAPTER VII.

PLATTE COUNTY RAILROAD.—KANSAS CITY, ST. JOSEPH & COUNCIL BLUFFS RAILROAD AND BRANCHES.—OREGON INTERURBAN.—PUBLIC SCHOOLS.—PIONEER SCHOOLS.—CHURCHES.—EARLY MINISTERS.—BISHOP MARVIN.—FIRST SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The people of Holt County early recognized the importance of railroads, and manifested their interest in an enterprise of this character, even in ante-bellum days.

The first railroad commenced in the county was what was known as the Platte County Railroad. It had been constructed as far as Savannah, in Andrew County, when the breaking out of the war caused a suspension of further operations. The grading and masonry were about completed through the southern part of the county to Forest City, but the road was never finished. Holt County subscribed seventy-five thousand dollars towards the building of this road, and issued bonds for half that amount. These bonds were promptly paid after the war, but, as before stated, the road was never completed.

The next enterprise in the way of railroads was inaugurated by the Kansas City, St. Joseph & Council Bluffs Railroad Company. This road was projected and completed through the county, at the expense of the company, in 1869. It enters the county at its southeast extremity and winds its way at the foot of the bluffs to a point four miles above Forest City. It here diverges into the bottom and makes but one deviation from a straight line for a distance of nearly thirty miles, when it reaches a point two miles below Phelps, in Atchison County.

The Nodaway Valley Branch of the Kansas City, St. Joseph & Council Bluffs Railroad was completed in 1880. This branch intersects the main line at Bigelow, passes through Mound City and Maitland and leaves the county at Section 21 in Clay Township.

The Tarkio Valley Branch leaves the main line at Corning and passes into Atchison County a short distance northeast of that town. It is evident from the foregoing that Holt County is pretty well fixed for railroad facilities, although served by one railroad system—the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad Company, which has since come into possession of the Kansas City, St. Joseph & Council Bluffs line and its branches. There are eleven stations in the county, located in the following named towns: Forbes, Forest City, Oregon, Bigelow, Napier, Fortescue, Craig, Maitland, Mound City, Corning and Curzon.

THE OREGON INTERURBAN.

For many years Oregon smarted under the indictment that the town was guilty of not being located on a railroad line. This matter seems not to have been taken into consideration when the town was laid out—or perhaps those who located the county seat expected the old Platte County Railroad to reach Oregon by way of Savannah, building across the hill country instead of following the water courses as railroads generally do when in the process of building.

As early as December 20, 1881, the citizens of Oregon seem to have realized the necessity for railroad connections, for at that time a meeting was held in the court house calculated to inaugurate a movement looking to the consummation of plans for building a line to connect with the Kansas City, St. Joseph & Council Bluffs road at Forest City. A committee consisting of Dr. G. A. Fiegenbaum, George Anderson, E. Van Bushkirk, James Limbird, Dr. J. T. Thatcher, Clarke Irvine and T. H. Parrish, was appointed to look after the matter further.

It was intended at the time to build a line costing about $75,000, but because of the difficulty in raising that sum the enterprise had to be abandoned. Other efforts were made at various times and the enthusiasm became so great in 1891 that several loads of ties were bought and unloaded on a vacant lot in Oregon. But as before, the prospective cost of the enterprise was too great and there was no railroad built that year.

But the long-wished for railroad became a realization in 1908, when the public spirited citizens of Oregon, tired of the piffle of outside promoters, took matters in their own hands and organized the company which built the standard gauge line connecting their home town with the Burlington's main line at Forest City.

The movement was started March 5, 1907, at which time there was such a substantial interest manifested that George Custer, a civil engineer, was engaged to begin the survey, which he did May 9.

The Oregon Interurban Railway Company was incorporated Nov. 12, 1907. The incorporators were C. D. Zook, B. F. Morgan, T. C. Dungan, Jacob Bucher, Henry C. Cook, W. H. Richards, Daniel Zachman, L. I. Moore and W. A. S. Deer. The officers chosen were B. F. Morgan, president, and L. I. Moore, secretary-treasurer. These, with C. D. Zook, T. C. Dungan, Jacob Bucher, Dr. Jonas Whitmer, W. H. Richards, Alex VanBuskirk and W. A. S. Deer constituted the first board of directors. The company was incorporated for $60,000.

The sale of stock continued after the formation of the company, but the organization work was carried on expeditiously

and the following year, June 10, a contract for the construction of the line was let to W. W. Wogan. The first grading was done on the C. E. Meyer place a short distance from Oregon August 3, 1908, and the event was appropriately celebrated.

The first passengers were hauled over the road January 28, 1909, when a party of Oregon Odd Fellows was taken to Forest City to attend a meeting of the lodge in that city. The road at this time was not entirely completed and regular passenger service was not inaugurated until April 26. The first carload of freight was received February 4, 1909, by Martin & Son. The second carload shipment was received April 6, by Ruley & Kunkel.

The Oregon Interurban is one of the few successful short line railroads in the country. It is operated principally by steam, that motive power being used for freight and most of the passenger service. A small passenger coach, propelled by a gasoline engine is in operation part of the time, when travel is light.

A handsome little depot on the northern outskirts of Oregon, nestled close to the switch yards, engine houses and other structures necessary to the operation of the road, gives that portion of the city of Oregon a metropolitan appearance. The people of the town feel that they have reason to be proud of this enterprise and there are many strangers who have expressed the belief that this pride has just cause for existence.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

It is doubtful if there is a resident of Holt County who is not proud of the excellent school system which has been built up by an active and competent corps of educators. It is a far cry from the pioneer school house of pioneer days to the present modern, convenient, healthful school buildings.

The pioneer school house was built of round logs, the space between them chinked and then daubed with mud. About five feet from the west wall, on the inside, and several feet high, another log was placed and run across the building. Puncheons were fixed on this log and in the west wall, on which the chimney was built. Fuel could then be used of any length not greater than the length of the building, and when it was burned through the middle, the ends were crowded together. In this manner was avoided the necessity for much wood chopping. There was no danger of burning the floor, as there was none. The seats were made of stools or benches, constructed by splitting a log, hewing off the splinters from the flat side, and then putting four pegs into it from the round side for legs.

The door was made of clapboards. On either side, a piece of one log was cut out and over the aperture was pasted greased

paper, which answered for a window. Wooden pins were driven into the log running lengthwise immediately beneath the windows, upon which laid a board, and this constituted the writing desks.

In those days there were no public school funds, and but little private funds, the teacher taking his pay, like the primitive preacher, in almost anything, such as potatoes, corn, rails, pigs, chickens, etc. The agreement between the teacher and the patrons provided that he should teach a "common school for a term of three months, viz.: spelling, reading, writing and arithmetic." The patrons on their part agreed to furnish a suitable school house, firewood and to board the pedagogue. In addition they were to pay $1.50 for each pupil. School was to commence when twenty pupils had been enrolled.

The old subscription schools as well as the log-cabin school houses, have long since passed away and are now only a memory. There are now (1916) sixty-three schools in Holt County. Some of them are brick, but the greater number are neat frame buildings, constructed with special reference to the wants and demands of the present age. Among the things which a modern school house must have are light and ventilation, which are so necessary to the health of the pupils. Besides these we have the convenient seat, desk, blackboard, maps, reference books and a number of other helps which are considered indispensable to the proper training of the youthful mind.

In addition the present day student has the advantage of teachers who have had wider experience, been better trained in their profession and who have more advanced ideas on scholarship than did the pioneer teacher who expounded the three R's in the days of yester years.

The office of school commissioner was created in 1865. The names of those who have held the office will be found in the chapter devoted to county officers.

The settlement of the county and the organization of the first churches were almost contemporaneous. The plow had scarcely begun to turn the sod, when the pioneer preacher commenced to labor in the new field. In the western country as well as in the Orient and the isles of the sea, marched the representatives of the Christian religion in the front ranks of civilization. Throughout the centuries which comprise this era, have the Christian missionaries been taught and trained to accompany the first advance of civilization, and such was their advent in Holt County. In the rude cabins and huts of the pioneers, they proclaimed the same gospel that is preached in the gorgeous palaces that, under the name of churches, decorate the great cities.

It was the same gospel, but the surrounding made it appear

different, in the effect it produced at least. The Christian religion had its rise, and the days of its purest practice, among the humble minded people, and it is among similar surroundings in modern times, that it seems to approach the purity of its source. This is best shown in the days of pioneer life. It is true, indeed, that in succeeding times, the church has attained greater wealth and practices a wider benevolence. Further, it may be admitted that it has gained a firmer discipline and wields a more general influence on society, but it remains true, in pioneer times, we find a manifestation of Christianity that we seek in vain at a later period and under contrasted circumstances. The meek and lowly spirit of the Christian faith—the placing of spiritual things above vain pomp and show—appear more earnest amid the simple life and toil of a pioneer people, than it can when surrounded with the splendors of wealth and fashion.

But we may take a comparison less wide, and instead of contrasting the Christian appearances of a great city with that of the pioneers, we may compare that of seventy years ago here in the west with that in the present time of well developed wealth and taste for display, and we find much of the same result.

The comparison is perhaps superficial to some extent, and does not fully weigh the elements involved, nor analyze them properly. We simply take the broad fact not to decry the present, but to illustrate the past. So looking back to the early religious meetings in the log cabins we may say: "Here was a faith, earnest and simple, like that of the early Christians."

It is not the purpose here to give a detailed history of the organization of all the churches in the county. Such matters of detail are given, as far as obtainable, in the history of the towns and townships. It is the intention here to speak only of the early churches and ministers, of those Christian ministers who first proclaimed the gospel of the Savior in Holt County, and of some of the organizations effected by them, and of the trials and privations which they suffered in common with the old settlers among whom they labored.

The first preacher in Holt County was the Rev. G. B. Thorp, a Hard-Shell Baptist. He officiated in the first meeting house that was erected in the county. It stood on section 36, township 60, range 38, on Mill Creek and was erected in 1843. The building has long since disappeared. This church is mentioned more fully in the chapter devoted to Lewis Township. The first church erected in Oregon was built by the Baptists and Christians.

One of the first ministers to officiate as such, among the pioneers of the county, was Bishop Marvin, who spent the early years of his ministry in Northwest Missouri. The Bishop was then a young man with headquarters in Oregon, and labored in behalf of the M. E. church. He held services about the years

1842 and 1843, in the house first used as a court house, located opposite the southwest corner of the court house park and later the site of the general merchandise store of W. H. Sterrett.

When in Oregon Bishop Marvin was entertained at the home of William Zook. In 1874 the old settlers of the Platte Purchase held a reunion in St. Joseph. Bishop Marvin, who then lived in St. Louis, had been invited to be present upon that occasion. But owing to his ministerial duties, which called him elsewhere at that time, he could not attend. But he expressed his regrets in a letter to Col. James N. Burnes, president of the Old Settlers' Reunion, from which the following quotations are taken:

"For the early settlers of Northwest Missouri I feel a regard that amounts to enthusiasm, and increases with time. The early years of my ministry were spent in that part of the state. In 1842 I passed the present site of St. Joseph, on the way to a field of labor quite on the frontier. It embraced all the country west of the Nodaway River. You will remember at that time there was no St. Joseph. In subsequent years I labored in Clay, Platte and Buchanan Counties. I shall never forget the uncalculating, unbounded hospitality of the 'old settlers.' Many of them were in their first rude cabins, but those cabins had the rarest capacity for entertaining both friend and stranger of any houses of their size I ever saw. I often saw them crowded, but to the best of my recollection I never saw one of them full; there was always room for a fresh comer. I recollect once in the Platte Purchase I was wedging myself into a bed already occupied by five children, when one of them waked sufficiently to exclaim, 'Mamma, mamma, he's a scrougin me!'

"I make no doubt that the ministry and church have done more to quicken thought and create a thirst for knowledge in the west, than is generally understood. Ministers of the gospel in the new communities, being above the average of people in culture, and dealing in truths of a character to elevate the mind and provoke inquiry, have, as an incident of their calling, toned up the popular mind, encouraged a taste for reading and created a demand for schools."

Bishop Marvin died in 1878. During his pastorate in one of the St. Louis churches, he delivered his famous lecture on Catholicism, which have since been accepted as a standard defense of the Protestant faith.

About the same time that Bishop Marvin came to Holt County, or soon after, another minister of the gospel, the Rev. W. C. Caples, of the M. E. Church, did missionary work in Northwest Missouri, extending the field of his labor to Holt County. Mr. Caples was an earnest, sincere and eloquent preacher, and did much for the cause of Christianity. Bishop Marvin spoke of him in laudatory terms. Mr. Caples went to St. Joseph in 1852

and took charge of the M. E. Church, South, where he remained several years.

Among other ministers who officiated at an early day in the county was the Rev. Alexander Spencer, who also was of the M. E. Church. The Rev. E. A. Carson was the first Presbyterian clergyman to conduct services in the county. He was a Virginian by birth and spent his declining years in Savannah, Andrew County, Missouri. The first Sunday School was organized by the Methodists. Mrs. Sarah Hill raised the sum of $33 by subscription to buy a library for this school.

CHAPTER VIII.

BUT ONE POLITICAL PARTY IN THE BEGINNING.—FIRST ELECTION IN 1844.—SLAVERY QUESTION A FACTOR. —SOME OF THE EARLY NEWSPAPERS.—ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE AN EDITOR.—EFFORTS TO SECURE AID FOR RAILROADS WHICH FIGURED IN POLITICS.

In the beginning there was but one political party in Holt County—the Democratic. The distinction of Benton and anti-Benton grew up later. There were a few old Whigs in the county, but hardly enough to justify a party organization until, perhaps, 1850. The great Benton had long forseen that the direction in which the ulta pro-slavery wing of the Democratic party led was without the pale of all compromise. Their cry was "slavery is national; liberty is sectional," meaning thereby that the condition of slavery was, under the national constitution, such that the slave holder could safely convey his slaves to any state in the Union, under that clause which declares, "the citizens of each state shall have all the privileges and immunities of citizens in the several states." Benton knew that this must lead to secession and war. He had a very large following in Holt County. Indeed as most of the early settlers were from the border states of both sections, their sympathies were with him. Gradually as the slave interest grew stronger, the anti-Benton wing became of greater weight.

As no newspaper was published in Holt County prior to 1857 it is difficult to get political facts preceding that date, to ascertain who ran for offices and how the candidates were nominated. In truth the geographical position of Holt County, as well as the character of its population, made that system of compromising called by the radicals of all parties, "carrying water on both shoulders," and despised by them, an indispensible condition to success.

The lighter and more easily a man's principles sat upon him the more probable his success. One may imagine the position of a candidate between two factions diametrically opposed, warring against each other to the knife, and whose votes he must have. What they want is "principle." What he wants is "votes." They suspect him for a rogue. He knows them for fools, or thinks he knows it. A condition about like this existed upon one occasion when the war between Benton and anti-Benton factions raged in Holt County at its highest and a congressional canvass was taking place. A candidate had called a meeting in Oregon to discuss the "issues." A certain style of overcoat was stylish at that time, so made that the wearer could turn it inside out or outside in. When he desired to present a

rough, hairy exerior to the people or weather he turned the soft, smooth, delicate surface inside.

The candidate referred to wore one of these quick change overcoats. When he arose to address the assembled patriots he took it off and requested a friend in the audience to hold it. Having spoken with his usual ardor and made clear the fact that he was qualified to pass muster as a statesman and orator, and having amused his hearers with appropriate jokes, he brought his speech to a close. He experienced a shock when he beheld the man he presumed was his friend raise his two-sided coat up before the audience, and, explaining to them the style of the garment, continued in this fashion:

"Feller Citizens: I think as how its jist about this way with the general, when he gits with a Benton man he wears his coat this side out; and when he gits with an anti-Bentonite he turns it tother side out," turning the coat to explain his meaning. While it is not officially so recorded this incident may have been responsible for the formation and subsequent use of the term "turn coat" in politics.

The first election of a general character ever held in Holt County, was in the fall of 1844. The order of the county court provided for judges of election for three or four townships. A congressman and several county officers were to be voted for. Provision was made on July 6, 1846, for another election for congressman and county officers, the election to be held in Nodaway, Lewis, Benton and Dallas Townships. The names of those elected will be found in the chapter devoted to county officers. The county court regularly made provision for elections and appointed judges for each election from the day they first assembled. Little interest attachs to the political history of the county until a short time before the Civil War. General James Craig, who was a Holt County pioneer, and later removed to St. Joseph, became congressman from the district. After serving two terms he was succeeded by Judge E. H. Norton of Platte County.

Newspapers somehow are inseparable from politics, although the editors themselves are generally rather indifferent politicians. But the political and newspaper history of any county go hand in hand. They are intermingled to such a degree that they appropriately belong together. This is an appropriate place, therefore, to remark that the first newspaper in Holt County was the Holt County News. It was established in the county seat, Oregon, in 1857. It was succeeded by The Sentinel, a more extended mention of which will be found in the chapter devoted to Lewis Township and the City of Oregon.

From the News for July 31, 1857, we learn that there is to be an election held for governor, supreme judge and circuit judge, and "that the election will be held on one day only." We

learn from the same paper that Colonel Stewart and Major Rollins were the two candidates for governor, Stewart, anti-Benton, Rollins, Opposition Independent. The contest seems to be hot and spirited. The News says, "The two candidates for governor came to blows over at Gallatin last week."

An issue of the same paper in the fall of 1857 gives the population of Holt County as follows: Males, 2,693; females, 2,432; slaves, 279; free, 2.

The returns from the election last held are given and show that Col. Stewart was elected by 334 majority. It will be seen from the vote that the anti-Benton party was growing to be the stronger wing. During the succeeding year there was the usual lull in political matters that follows elections. As the summer of 1859 approached some interest began to grow up concerning the coming contest, but it was entirely of a local nature. At this time the Forest City Monitor was published by J. R. VanNatta. The war waged during the summer of 1859 between the two papers was bitter and unremitting. The sharpness of the contest turned almost entirely on the circuit clerkship. Ellzey Van Buskirk was the incumbent of that office, having held it with ability and satisfaction to the people for a number of years. He was again a candidate and his candidacy was strongly espoused by the News, as representing its own and Oregon's interests. The Forest City interests, or rather the newspaper interests, on the other hand, of the Monitor, supported C. C. Hawkins. It was sought to get up some political feeling, but it would seem from the newspapers that the matter was almost entirely local and personal.

This was perhaps the sharpest and most bitter election contest that ever raged in Holt County. The other offices to be filled were supreme judge, county clerk and surveyor, but the whole spirit and life of the controversy was around the circuit clerkship. A thousand things were said and done, as usual in such cases, which men ought to laugh at afterwards, besides learning the lesson how foolish it is to abuse each other, during a canvass for office before the people. All other things being equal it is certain that the "best abused" man is sure to be elected.

The result of the election, which was held on the first Monday in August, 1858, was that Ellzey VanBuskirk received a majority of 443 votes over Hawkins for the office of circuit clerk. For county clerk James Scott received a majority of 46 votes over the other two candidates, George E. Glass and Daniel David. S. C. Collins was elected surveyor without opposition. A very important question had been before the people at this time and was voted on at this election: "Shall the county take stock in the Platte County Railroad, as per their order?" The exact vote

on the proposition seems to have been undetermined, nor is it found reported in the papers; but from subsequent proceedings it is inferred that the proposition did not carry. The whole number of votes cast at this election was 1,085.

The railroad question seems to have been warmly agitated, and many meetings were held. Men without any property to be taxed spoke wildly at them as to how much the county could give. Some spoke of donating from two to three hundred thousand dollars. As the population of Holt County was then barely five thousand souls, of whom not more than four hundred paid taxes to any amount worth speaking of, this was a liberal appropriation of other people's money. The News of November 20, 1859, says: "Twice the people have voted on the question, 'without points' and have defeated it." It says, "Let the points be named, so we will know what we vote for. Three points, Oregon, Forest City and Mound City. Our motto is three points and the tax." During the whole autumn of 1859 there was little else of public interest agitated but this projected railroad, to go through the Platte County or Purchase, as it was originally called. On the 17th of February, it was announced that the stock subscribed by the county court was to be accepted, and operations were soon to commence, and on February 24, the News says: "The stock has been taken, and we have only to submit and trust to the honor of our county court to protect us." The members of the county court at that time were Judges Williams, Canon and Gordon. The subsequent history of this railroad matter was brief so far as the road was concerned; long as to the payment of the bonds given. The outbreak of the war prevented its completion.

It is rather amusing to recall what the Holt County News, of March, 1861, said editorially: "The Hon. Abel Lincoln has been speaking in New England, fishing for a nomination. Being uncertain as to success he has charged from $50 to $200 for every speech." So generally unknown was that man at that time, whose name ere twelve months had passed, was familiar to the people of the whole civilized world.

A political history of Holt County which did not contain some reference to the once forbidden topic of slavery, would be, indeed, like playing Hamlet without the character of Romeo. The southern people habitually boasted of their attachment to the states of their birth. It was common to hear men declare with enthusiasm that Virginia, Kentucky and Missouri were their native states; but rarely, if ever, did a man from the north, when asked as to his nativity, say more than the name of his state.

A little incident will illustrate the condition of feeling between the men of the two sections. A southern man, in denouncing a certain citizen, through the paper, had ended by boasting that he "was a native of the glorious state of Missouri and had

there been educated." His opponent responded: "The Reverend gentleman boasts he was born in the state of Missouri and educated in the state of Missouri. I reply that I was born in the United States and that I learned to read and write in the United States, and if it is not so large as Missouri, it is just as good a place."

It is a perfectly safe assumption that the author of the latter remark was a northern man, and possibly, "tainted with the heresy of anti-slavery," as it was then styled. Such facts and one we shall relate, will show the undercurrent of feeling, perhaps, better than a volume of disquisitions. While high above and all outside, every appearance indicated a people unanimous for what was called "the South," a deep undercurrent had set in that was sure to ally Missouri with the other cause.

The autumn of the year 1854 saw Nebraska opened up for settlement. The people of Holt County, owing to proximity, were more interested in Kansas. A few, however, made ventures in Nebraska, prominent among them being Dick Brown, who gave the name to the important town of Brownville. Some few engaged in the so-called "Border Ruffian" raids. These raiders were not regarded with a friendly eye by the Benton men, and were but few in number. But from that time on the differences between the two wings of the party in Holt County grew in number and intensity. Meanwhile there grew up very slowly a sentiment hostile to slavery. This was confined to the new comers from the eastern states who arrived here after the year 1855. No party was formed but the quiet feeling kept growing. Not more than two or three persons had openly avowed their anti-slavery views.

Early in the spring of 1860 the Democratic party of Holt County appeared to be unanimously in favor of Claiborne F. Jackson for governor, and its organ declared that he was "The man to plant the flag of Democracy in triumph on the capitol walls of Jefferson City." The paper said it was a dark time, and the outlook for "our institutions" was most gloomy. The word "institutions" invariably meant slavery. One would suppose that all theinterest and hopes of the five thousand persons in Holt County, were involved in the status of two or three hundred black men, women and children as slaves. Nevertheless the party that so absolutely ruled Holt County at that time, expressed itself on all occasions as strongly devoted to the Union, proclaiming it was their "sole hope for the maintenance and continuance of our institutoins."

On the 14th of May, the Democracy of the district met in convention in Plattsburg, and resolved emphatically: "The Union! It must and shall be preserved," in approval and confirmation of the resolutions and proceedings of the Democratic convention in Jefferson City, held April 9th, nominating Judge

E. H. Norton for congress. Jackson and Reynolds and the whole state ticket were to all appearances about to be unanimously supported by that party in Holt County. The organ of the party published the celebrated letter of Yancy, which contained the expression: "Fire the Southern heart," that became a proverb. "If we could do as our father's did—organize committees of public safety all over the cotton growing states, we could fire the Southern heart, instruct the Southern mind, give courage to each other, and at the proper moment, by one organized, concerted effort, we can precipitate the southern states into a revolution." Such were the concluding words of this missive, and the News asked the people of Holt County if they were "willing to follow these seceders." It strongly denounced the position taken by these men.

By June the various parties were preparing to nominate their candidates for the presidency and the anxiety in Holt County was most profound—too great for much outward show of excitement. The Moderators, that remnant of the old Whig party, and all those who would not vote with the Democrats on any terms, of whom, by this time, quite a number were in the county, were delighted to learn of Bell and Everett's nomination and acceptance. By this time the Baltimore convention was in session, and it was evident that had Douglas been nominated with any of approach toward harmony, he would have been cordially supported by the Democracy of Northwest Missouri.

On June 29, the News, which had shown a disposition to support him, announced the disruption of the Baltimore convention, and bitterly blamed the Douglas delegates for causing the trouble. The News said: "Their assumptions were far too great for vassals to bear, much less for delegates equal to themselves. They had the might, not the right, to bring about the result which they sought, as they were from states that rarely, if ever, cast a Democratic vote in the electoral college. We now have two sets of candidates in the field, Douglas and Fitzpatrick; Breckenridge and Lane."

From that day on the News pursued a course better suited to the latitude of Alabama than of North Missouri. In a few days it tore down the names of Claiborne F. Jackson and of the others on the state ticket, denouncing them as traitors to the cause of Democracy. On the 24th of June Judge Norton, candidate for congress, and Silas Woodson for circuit judge, spoke at Oregon. Col. Branch, who ran as a Republican for congress, sent word that he was sick and could not appear. This is the first inkling we have that anyone had ever ventured to run as a Republican for any office within the gift of the people of Holt County. But the bitter hostility of the ultra pro-slavery Democrats toward the Douglas men made it quite safe. The Bell and Everett men were on all occasions warmly complimented by the

Breckenridge party, while even the "Black" Republicans were regarded with some complacence by them, as contrasted with the advocates of "Squatter Sovereignty." It was "anything to beat Douglas."

There occurred an incident at this time that might have caused even bloodshed, but for the intense anxiety as to the result of the coming election. A colored man named Williams, who for many years had lived at Council Bluffs, and who was known to be a free man, was kidnapped and brought to Rock Port, where he escaped and was soon after arrested and confined in the jail in Oregon, for "being found in the state without a permit." While there confined, previous to such time as he might be sold, under the statute provided in such cases, Dr. Blanchard and a Mr. Gaston of Fremont County, Iowa, came to procure his discharge. He was taken by writ of habeas corpus before Judge Frazer. The two witnesses, Blanchard and Gaston, both known to be men of the highest respectability in Fremont County, Iowa, and as such known to many of the citizens of Holt County, testified as to their knowledge of the status of the man, but could not swear as to the place of his birth, or that his mother was a free woman when he was born.

The court, although no witnesses appeared against the man, remanded the poor fellow back to his prison. Great excitement arose at Council Bluffs. Fortunately the congressman from this district, Gen. James Craig, a man well and favorably known to every man, woman and child in Holt County, where he had formerly resided and practiced law at the county seat, had a brother who was then the sheriff of Pottawottomie County, in which county Council Bluffs is located. This man was sent by the people of that town, provided with authority and ample funds to act. He appeared, procured an attorney to assist, got an order from Judge John F. Williams, who resided above Mound City, to bring the prisoner before him. Night was the time chosen to act. The jailer was served with the writ, and the man was carried before the judge, surrounded by a guard sufficient to overawe any attempt to take him off by force. The judge, in five minutes ordered his release, and he with Sheriff Craig, went on his way rejoicing.

In a few days the News announced that Messrs. Blanchard and Gaston, of Iowa, who had been after the kidnappers, passed through on their return home, "with the scoundrels in irons," who had been guilty of the crime. Justice requires us to add that it rejoiced over their capture, and that the Southern men of Southern blood and politics were the most indignant and enraged at this daring assault upon the peace, the laws and sacred rights of man.

The excitement of the national contest culminated on the occasion of the meeting at Oregon, on Monday, July 22, when

nearly all of the county candidates were present. There were Messrs. Galen Crow and Samuel R. Young, who ran for representative. Young, who had held the position during the last term, much to the satisfaction of the people, was well known as a Democrat of the most reliable type, but did not suit the new school now dominating the South, so those of them in Holt County invited Crow to run. The candidates for several other offices were present, among them being Captain Williams of Forest City, and Harris and Judge Andrew Meyer, who were running for the county court judgeship. There also was George Lehmer, a merchant of Oregon, and a Free State man in sentiment—personally very popular, who was a candidate for sheriff. These all spoke, as did several others. The county had been exhaustively canvassed by this time; meetings had been held at every important point, and this was the final winding up. It was very largely attended, and, to the surprise of some, all went off quietly and with good humor. On Monday, August 6th, the state election was held. The feeling in the county may be gathered from the vote:

For Governor—C. F. Jackson (Douglas Democrat), received 504 votes; H. Jackson (Breckenridge Democrat), 192 votes; Sample Orr (Bell and Everett), 258 votes; Gardenshire (Republican), 173 votes.

Congressman—E. H. Norton (Douglas Democrat), received 838 votes; Scott (Opposition), 364 votes; Branch (Independent Republican), 26 votes.

Circuit Judge—Silas Woodson, 1018 votes; Pitt, 83 votes; Wilson, 104 votes.

Sheriff—Emerson, 425 votes; Lehmer, 348 votes; Poindexter, 319 votes; Harroll, 176 votes.

Representative—Hon. S. R. Young, 524 votes; Galen Crow, 759 votes.

Frazer, Williams and Harris were elected county judges; Chadduck, county treasurer, and S. C. Collins, assessor.

Here was a result to astound men who up to that time thought that they represented the sentiments of a great majority of the people in Holt County. Out of nearly twelve hundred voters, they could poll, with all their efforts, less than two hundred. Why, the despised Black Republicans polled almost as many, and if the vote of Lehmer, for sheriff was an indication, he being notoriously a Free Soiler, they could even beat them. This would have served as a quietus to any but men frenzied by fanaticism; would have satisfied them that their politics were utterly unsuited to Holt County.

They called a great Breckenridge Democratic convention for September 1st, to meet in Oregon. Their report shows that

the attendance was very small, but that they "expected no more, and that all was done with firmness and in order." The most active members were James Foster, J. L. Reynolds, Dr. Howard, G. B. Thorp, and James B. Campbell. A club was organized. The Bell and Everett party also organized a club in which George W. Crow and a Mr. Southall figured. The Douglas men organized also, and the Hon. S. R. Young, E. VanBuskirk, Levi Zook, Samuel Word, John F. Williams, Hiram Patterson, T. W. Collins, and Dr. William L. Gordon figured as active members.

The Courier of Forest City, edited by A. R. Conklin, was a Douglas Democrat organ, and boldly maintained its views in spite of threats from some of the Breckenridge men. Later in the progress of events, after the war began, Mr. Conklin was set upon by assassins who fired upon him, inflicting serious wounds. These assassins were moved entirely by their hatred of his course as a "Union saver."

An incident worth relating for its novelty and daring, is the fact of a Republican meeting having been held in the court house, in Oregon, on September 28, 1860. This was the first meeting ever held in Holt County by that party. The speakers were announced to be Dr. Landon, Republican elector from Buchanan County, and James T. Boynton, editor of the Free Democrat, a Republican paper of St. Joseph. Boynton only spoke. The meeting was quite well attended, and especially by leading pro-slavery men, who were curious to hear what any one could possibly say in favor of "Black Republicanism," as they invariably called it. Boynton, a youth about twenty-three years old, of handsome and very prepossessing appearance, exhibited wisdom and sagacity far beyond his years. Bold, firm and clear in the enunciation of his views, modest and polite before so many enemies, he won their good will from the start, and it is quite certain they would have protected him had any one ventured to disturb him after the first few minutes. The Republicans were delighted at his manly exposition of just what was their meaning and designs. The young man, who soon after left the country, carried the best wishes of all who heard him upon that occasion. Of his subsequent career little or nothing is known.

On the 24th of September, T. P. Akers made a memorable speech in the court house. He was an elector on the Bell and Everett side. The Breckenridge men glorified greatly over it as such "a flattener of Dougles Squatter Sovereignty as would injure that cause in Holt County." At this time there were scarcely any persons in Holt County who were avowed adherents of Lincoln's cause. Clarke Irvine and the Rev. Stephen Blanchard had long been notoriously open and avowed Free Soilers and perhaps had the other parties been asked how many such were in Holt County before the recent state election, they would have responded by naming only those two.

By October 5, the News gave it up that Lincoln would be elected, and advised submission to him until his first overt act to infringe on "our rights." Soon after, A. R. Conklin took hold of the News, and published it for a few months, at the same time conducting the Courier, of Forest City. As early as December 1st, we find the two papers denouncing James Buchanan for his fatal quiescence while secession was organizing boldly, its plans right before him. A rather pertinent question is asked by the editor: "What will Lincoln do?" We give the reply in Lincoln's own language, because of its very striking matter-of fact expression, its terseness and fitness. The News said Lincoln was known to be a very firm man where he has once determined, and here is his reply to the question: "What shall we do? Old John Brown has been hung for treason against one state. Though slavery is wrong and he thought he was right, we cannot object, for he was guilty of bloodshed and treason against a state. So if you try to destroy this union, it will be our duty to deal with you as Old John Brown was dealt with by the State of Virginia."

By December 15th, the thirty-seven thousand dollars of railroad bonds had been thrown upon the market, the company realizing but fifty per cent, owing to the secession attitude and half their working force was withdrawn.

The News had again changed on the 2d of February. Dr. J. Robinson, a native of Maine, but an old citizen and a rousing secessionist, became editor. He was a man of some literary attainments, but seemed over-running with bitterness against the section of his birth, and indeed it had been a fact noted for years that the most intemperate proceedings of the pro-slavery party was instituted and conducted by northern men.

A state convention having been called to meet on February 18, 1861, it was announced that Messrs. Singleton, of Andrew County; Griffith, of Nodaway County, and Baxter and Van-Buskirk, of Holt County, were candidates for delegates to it. The News remarked that Prince L. Hudgens had consented to run. This man and Baxter were the prime favorites of the Secessionists. Both were ministers of the gospel and eloquent speakers, Hudgens being a man of some celerity as such. He also practiced law on occasions, uniting the two occupations somewhat as did the more famous H. Clay Dean. The declaration of the Secessionists was that they "were not in favor of secession, but that, after exhausting all means of compromise of pending difficulties, then, in case of failure, if the other border states go south and the question is north or south, with the south we will go." As several of the states had put themselves out of the Union, as they said, and perhaps as their people thought, and the only question that could come up was that of compulsion or letting them go, this was a very plain declaration as to where these men intended to carry Missouri. The bitter

contest resulted in the election of VanBuskirk, of Holt County, and Wilson, of Andrew County, who had become a candidate.

The News of February 23d announces this result, and adds that it is uncertain whether Hudgens or Baxter was the successful one. Hudgens, however, was chosen, as the result showed.

The sentiment of the Douglas men was well explained by the Courier at this time, which said that "if Lincoln discharges his duties under the constitution so far as our institutions are concerned, that is all we ask." VanBuskirk, the delegate to the convention, was an outspoken Douglas man, and the Secessionists had no confidence or hope in him.

We find that in the presidential election the vote of Holt County was thus: For Douglas, 453 votes; for Bell, 384 votes; for Lincoln, 202 votes, and for Breckenridge only 171 votes. If at the state election the Secessionists were astounded, at this result they were mortified. However, they could count on two-thirds of the Bell men in their later efforts. This gave them courage. An incident at Oregon, just after the news of Lincoln's election, enraged them. About sunset loud guns were fired from several blacksmith shops, the detonations following and answering each other like echoes. "What means this?" they asked. They were told that the brawny iron-clad sons of the anvil were rejoicing at Lincoln's election! "It was time, indeed," they began to think, "to take some measures to stay the progress of abolitionism, lest the institutions of Missouri crumble."

The convention which had met immediately, almost, after the election, held a short session and adjourned in March to meet in December at Jefferson City. Its proceedings were violently denounced by the Secessionists of Holt County. The sentiment of that body was, at this date, expressed by certain resolutions, that declared that it was opposed to any step being taken by Missouri looking to her withdrawal from the Union, and opposed to "coercion by force of arms."

Looking back on this it is easy to see that the convention felt its great responsibility and sought to preserve the peace by thus seeking to placate both parties. But see how rapidly revolutions educate people in the way they are tending. This resolution expressed what the Secessionists of Holt County declared was their intention at the time of the election of delegates, but now nothing was more unsatisfactory. At the same time the Union men were just as rapidly being prepared to sacrifice every consideration in favor of the Union. The fight in the convention came up as an amendment to the resolutions "refusing to furnish men and money to aid the government in coercing a Confederate state." By the position men took on this it was clearly seen who were the real Union men.

Willard P. Hall and John B. Henderson put themselves most prominently before the people as opposed to that amendment, while Prince L. Hudgens became one of the most conspicuous of all its friends.

Circuit court was to meet Monday, April 15, at Oregon. We know now that the Secessionists secretly and very quietly prepared what is called by the diplomatists a grand Coup d'Etat. Monday was to be for them as the gathering of the clans. Everything was prepared by them for such an exhibition as would intimidate the enemy by its moral weight. Success in this depended entirely on the impression to be made that it was impromptu—a manifestation on the spur of the moment from the overcharged hearts of an almost unanimous people. Of all this no Union man had ever a suspicion.

So, when court met, all the leaders of the movement were there with their followers. After dinner, when it was time for court to reassemble, it was suggested to the judge that he allow the room to be occupied an hour or so for political purposes, agreeable to an old custom. The usual number of suitors, jurors, witnesses and lawyers were in attendance, and, on that first day, it was always large. Besides the local attorneys at that time, Holt County being connected with Buchanan, there were commonly a large number of the St. Joseph bar here. On this day there were present very many lawyers from the other counties from St. Joseph. The complaisant judge, Norton, gave the opportunity, as requested.

Prince L. Hudgens was soon upon the stand, and in the full flow of his eloquence. It was suggested that the crowd was too great for the room; hundreds could not get in. There was an adjournment to the court house yard, which then contained a thrifty growth of young trees, and several large locusts among the number, sufficient for a comfortable shade on that very pleasant afternoon, where the orator for hours intoned the litany and creed of secessionism before hundreds of his adimrers and a few lookers-on.

Hon. Willard P. Hall, of St. Joseph, was present. This gentleman was known as one of the foremost lawyers in the state, and had been ever most highly esteemed by all parties, and especially by those with whom he now disagreed so strongly. Circumstances were pointing to him as likely to be the chief of the Union men in Missouri. His course in the convention had embittered the Secessionists against him. There he sat, a conspicuous mark for the shafts aimed at him by the orator. When Hudgens had finished, fair play entitled him to a hearing. He spoke with extreme moderation; too much so, for the days that were hastening on. But of all things to be dreaded by men like him at that time was the least suspicion of having any sympathy with the hated and unfashionable "Black Republicans." To be

in the society of one of them was intolerable. Mildly as he expressed himself, his arguments were too strong for the endurance of the excited Secessionists.

Some men who had theretofore always conducted themselves as gentlemen, howled and hooted at him, threatening violence against the "Union saver." He showed them that they were about to destroy the only protection slavery had in all the civilized world—the Union under the Constitution, and were moving the Canada line toward the Gulf of Mexico. But they would not tolerate even that talk. Unionists and Abolitionists were to them the same thing, and he was obliged to desist. It will be noted that in a very short time these men were loud in their denunciation of the slightest restriction on free speech, when the tables were turned and duly organized force was brought to bear upon them. Thus closed this memorable day for Holt County.

Ere another session of court was held he who would have spoken as Hudgens did, on that day, would have done so at the imminent risk of his life; the bold, proud leaders of Secession were fugitives, or with the rebel army; the few who held the peculiar property comprehended under the term "institution," were exiles, their slaves virtually free, while of that great howling mob, whose manifestations so delighted the active intellects who created the demonstration, of that mob two-thirds were armed and equipped to destroy rebels by the great power that held the purse and sword of government. The News came out with great scare head lines: "Glory Enough for One Day!" "P. L. Hudgens Speaks!" "Southern Rights Triumphant!" "The People Speak!" It expressed great pity for Hall, and was grieved as well as surprised that he should place himself in such a position.

By the 27th of April, grim visaged war was indeed visible. The attack on Fort Sumpter and the call for 75,000 men and the almost unanimous uprising of the whole north, showed the time at hand when there could no longer be any shuffling or prevarication by any person.

The busiest man in the district was the Rev. P. L. Hudgens, and Dr. Robinson, with the Rev. Baxter, were most active in the county. The grand object was to "organize military companies to defend our institutions—merely to act on the defensive." At this time the expression "Armed Neutrality" was much heard in the land.

The News informs us that "Whisky Bob Stewart is trying to hand over Missouri to the Black Republicans." It further declared that "we of Holt County are too indifferent in this work of forming military companies."

On May 19th the News admitted the situation was con-

sidered dangerous. Shortly afterwards the paper was seized by Col. E. P. Peabody, and a note on a bit of brown paper, in place of a regular issue, mentions that fact, and it was returned to James Foster, July 24, 1861. A few more issues, under Secession control, contain the information that home guards were being organized at Nickols' Grove, Mound City and other points. The Harney manifesto and the Price-Harney treaty were commented on about the last of May. The editor raved that "clanking chains are around us—fetters are on our limbs—gags in our mouths. In this land of liberty there is 'free speech' no longer."

By the 22d of June all pretense of even neutrality was thrown off. The Secessionists of Holt County cried, as did they all in other counties: "Come to the rescue—our sacred soil is invaded by the armed minious of Lincolnism." "Vile mercenaries surround us." "Citizens of Holt! Have you indeed the blood of freemen in your veins?"

Governor Jackson had called for fifty thousand men, and the state authorities were at open war with the government of the Union. A strong federal force was at Kansas City, and Jackson was at Arrow Rock with two thousand men. The state convention had been called to meet on Monday, July 23d. It would seem that the loyal people of the northwestern counties had become nerved up. The News of July 20th said: "Among the persons taken at Maryville by the Lincoln mob, were the sheriff and circuit and county clerks. So it seems that the Lincoln minions are assailing county, as well as state authorities." This issue of the News is presumably the last. J. W. Biggers was the editor and his career seems to have been like that of the skyrocket.

From this time on the condition of society in Holt County was by no means pleasant. The men who had insisted on bringing affairs to this crisis, who, from destroying free speech and even thought on one subject, had come to the most absolute intolerance on all questions that displeased them, were now in turn silenced. Then came the role of the assassin. Foolish, ignorant men! Every bed they prepared for others, they had to lie upon themselves. A few men of education, some culture and ability, taught doctrines that demoralized the masses; set examples that recoiled terribly on their own heads.

For a short time the most prominent men in either party had to take their departure alternately, according as the power of one or the other predominated, till finally the Secessionists had to leave entirely and even those suspected of the least sympathy were not safe. Perhaps the occasion that did most to open their eyes to the possibilities they seem never to have dreamed of, was the visit of Col. Peabody, with some United States troops, to Oregon. A sentinel was quietly at night placed at the doors of each disloyal man. In the morning they found themselves prisoners.

The attempted assassination of A. R. Conklin, editor of the Forest City Courier, and the killing of a Mr. Smith, east of Oregon, were fearful examples set by those whom we must now call rebels. By the autumn, nearly all the men in Holt County capable of bearing arms, were either gone from home in the Union or rebel service, or were organized into active militia at home. The government of the state was soon in the hands of Union men. The Provisional Militia and six months' men did splendid service in preserving order, and holding Missouri fast to the Union. When their time expired the Missouri State Militia was organized for the war, armed and equipped and paid by the general government. Holt County contributed far more than her quota to the Union service, as her military history will show. Her political condition was one of extreme quiesence. She was entirely under control of the federal power. Disloyalists in sentiment had great hope until after the battle of Pittsburg Landing, by which, though encouraged at first, they came finally to be cast down. There was literally no political agitation in Holt County for a long time.

Early in the spring of 1862, the Missouri State Militia had been organized, and a large number of the most active men in the county, among those left, entered Companies B and F of the Fourth Missouri State Militia Cavalry Volunteers, W. S. Canon being captain of Company B, and Alfred Walters, of Company F. George W. Kelly, son of Colonel Kelly, who was one of the earliest pioneers of Holt County, was major of the regiment, and George Hall, brother of Willard P. Hall, was colonel. Large numbers entered other companies. Later Company C, of the Ninth Missouri State Militia was organized, and composed almost entirely of Holt County men, Lieutenant Samuel Patterson, acting as captain.

Throughout the county the slave property became demoralized almost in the very beginning and passed into Kansas. Bands of men called "Jayhawkers" visited Holt County from Kansas or Nebraska, with some citizens of the county to guide and instruct them. This was the opportunity of a bold and reckless class and they were quick to seize upon it. Horses, mules and money were the real object, punishment of rebels and freedom of the slaves the pretext. It would be interesting to know what must have been the reflections of these men, especially the largest slave holders, on the conditions during the winter and spring of 1861-62. It is not possible that their wildest suppositions ever proposed the sudden, overwhelming revolution in their affairs. Those who created the demonstration in the Court House Park on that memorable Monday in April were now fugitives or exiles, their property scattered to the four corners of the earth.

In June, 1861, rejoicing as over permanent triumph at such petty affairs as the invasion by Pace of Oregon, capture of the court house, and raising of a rebel flag thereupon, a fact that

consolidated the Union element of the county; in July astounded unspeakably at the sight of United States troops in their midst and bewailing the loss of their liberties. Still they could assemble at various parts of the county, make plans and give each other counsel. Accustomed to ride on horse back, many of them passed much time in that way. But all this was ended after the Jayhawkers' visits. Thenceforth they had to go on foot. This stroke secured the peace of the county. After that there was no more danger of collissions between bands of Union and rebel men. Later, the encouragement given to the class of men engaged in plundering reacted, and the time came when the owner of good horses and mules was denounced as a rebel and robbed regardless of his real status. Some men, as late as 1865-6, seemed to have forgotten that peace had returned, and regarded those who differed from them as without the protection of law. A notorious person, who had been indicted for robberies and murderous assaults perhaps twenty times during the war and the year following, and had escaped by the confusion of the times, was finally punished by imprisonment for some smaller offense, and broke jail. It is almost amusing to read that as late as the spring of 1867 some county officials, a militia major and other prominent citizens of an adjoining county, in another state whither he had fled, issued a certificate to the good people of Holt County that they "knew him to have been a 'truly loyal' man during the war, to be a good citizen and a man of good character, and that his prosecution was malicious and his sentence should be remitted." It is well to note, too, that the very radical newspaper of the most ultra radical county in the state, publishing this, replied: "Certificates of loyalty during a rebellion some years ago, are no excuse for crime today, and this man of 'good character' is a fugitive from justice." This affair is at once a proof of how far demoralization had gone, and of an early, happy convalesence.

Politically, of course, new men had to come to the fore—men who in the former state of things, never could have had an opportunity of recognition. At such times it is always the radical element that rules. The county officers were entirely changed. Then might be witnessed the growth of a sentiment that should compel the abolition of slavery. At this point began the divergence between conservative unionism and radicalism. Here began the basis of the two parties that were to contend for several years over the conduct of the war and reconstruction after peace. Among a people so homogeneous as ours, what takes place in each county illustrates the general spirit. One very striking fact is that some men who had been known in the state as most unrelenting, slaughter-breeding Secessionists, became in a few days the very incarnation of hate against the rebel cause. Charles D. Drake was an illustration of this, as in another state was General Logan. Mr. Drake had most to do with shaping the course of events for a few years in Missouri. Strange to say

those who had been noted as anti-slavery men, and supporters of Lincoln, such men as Blair, Brown and Gardenhire, became representatives of a milder sentiment. The efforts of the administration to hold the border states and the need of conciliating and courting the representatives of those opposed to it, to the neglect of those who stood bund and pledged to the administration, may account for this.

Ben. F. Loan was elected congressman from this district as a Radical Republican, and the successor of Judge Norton. He represented it two terms and figured among the most extreme of the fiery Radicals. Those who pursued a conservative course in the convention and elsewhere, became so unpopular that their moderation which had preserved Missouri to the Union, was forgotten or disregarded by the element that succeeded those who by direct felo de se had left the places of power vacant. A. G. Hollister was chosen as representative.

The examples of violence and outrage set by the defunct faction were unhappily followed and improved upon, if such a word may be used in this connection. In 1863 a large number of those who had been misled into rebellion, as well as some who had misled them, desired to return "home"—to that place to which in all times of despair the human heart is sure to turn. But for them it was home no longer. It was the fortress of enemies. Only by entering the Union service and donning the blue uniform, could their persons be made safe. Many did so. A few who did not, but ventured to remain, were driven out or assassinated. The Union men were alarmed at the idea of these men returning. They feared that they might influence many doubtful persons throughout the county to join with them in resisting the government. Little knowing how entirely broken in spirit and changed these people were.

During 1863-64 a lawless spirit was rampant. Martial law prevailed. Property was destroyed and lives taken in some cases, at some places within the county and along its borders. In the autumn of 1862, an order had been issued by the military authority controlling the district, General Logan commanding, which was very generally directed to the loyal men, requesting them to meet, organize and disarm every suspected person and house. This was literally and thoroughly obeyed. Thereafter the people known as sympathizers had no arms, and were liable to be abused by whoever might do so. They were completely at the mercy of ruffians, and often indebted for safety to those whom, in after days of pride and power, they most despised. Men found generous friends or mean, treacherous enemies often where they last expected.

After the expiration of the Provisional Militia service the whole able-bodied force of the state was organized into the Enrolled Missouri Militia. Holt County had several companies.

On occasions men from these companies were detailed to go on duty at various points within the state. The Gamble government, that had succeeded upon the anarchy left by the Jackson rule, was deemed conservative. This was a loyal government, true to the Union and the Constitution to the death. But there was slavery, the everlasting bone of contention, even when no slaves were left. Now there were Union men and Union men—one class for the extirpation of slavery, the other "for the Union as it was." "What," exclaimed the former, "the Union as it was! Rebels back in power! Slavery reinstated! Never! From this height to which they have driven us, through fire and blood, we have caught a glimpse of the promised land, and, by all the powers of heaven and earth and, if it need be, hell, to that glorious land shall we carry this people." The others regarded these as "impracticables-insane." Yet who does not see now that had the Union been restored at any time after Bull Run, ere three months the whole South must have been overrun by vast armies of men, with fire and sword, and the whole land, perhaps, drenched in the blood of civil war. Bull Run rang the death knell of slavery, and thenceforth the war, sectional in character, pursued its course. The leading Union men of Holt County were, almost to a man, radical. Oregon was the center of radicalism. When the next presidential election came round, Lincoln and McClellan, the opposing candidates, such was the condition that it was as much as a man's life was worth to openly declare himself for McClellan, at Oregon. At Forest City a different temper was manifest. The vote was a perfect indication of the great changes wrought, the condition of sentiment prevailing at the different precincts and the general feeling. The whole vote of the county stood as follows: Lincoln received 673 votes, and McClellan received 81 votes.

By an order of the new convention, all offices of the county were vacated about May, 1865. The places of the incumbents were filled by appointment by the governor. Radicalism had trimuphed in the state. Conservatism, which no doubt had held the state for the Union, was now hated by the dominating spirit which was born and nurtured through and by hatred of slavery. Each spirit in its turn had served the cause of the Union, and been necessary to it.

During the winter of 1863-64, and the summer and fall of 1864, there was often a very riotous and reckless feeling manifested by some militia men, and returned or furloughed soldiers, encouraged by some excessively loyal men, who had remained at home. The Gamble Government being conservative, had retained or enlisted as much of the Missouri State Militia as possible, with sentiemnts akin to its own. The most violent regiments or companies it sought to disband. It kept the Missouri State Militia under control of the more conservative officers as much as possible. One regiment (Penick's) had been disbanded. New

regiments or whole companies, of old ones, had been enlisted from those people called "paw-paws"—people who being southern, but not Secessionists, or former sympathizers, or deserters, or discharged from the Confederate service, had been driven from their poor homes, and had subsisted on paw-paws in their retreats. The conduct of some of the Enrolled Missouri Militia companies was such that complaints were frequent. Inebriety, rioting, violence of every description, were the usual condition at some points where they were stationed. A common occurence was for some of these men to assail some harmless sympathizer, abuse him, and only release him on his treating them. Old men and cripples were often the victims of these "braves."

Such things were common in Holt County. Warned in vain repeatedly, that the government would disarm them unless they preserved order, and proved more subordinate to their officers, the state authorities finally compelled them to surrender their arms to the Paw-paw Militia. This created a bitter and vindictive hate, that gratified itself in blood. Captain Markwell, who had been commissioned as captain of one of the companies that had been recruited in place of a disbanded one, was murdered in cold blood by a few men who met him a few miles north of Oregon. He was deliberately shot down by the band of murderers as ruthless as any that ever dogged the life from man; murdered as a sympathizer with rebellion by men who themselves were in open, flagrant rebellion against their own constituted authorities. Captain Markwell had very early seen the futile hopelessness of the rebel movement, and had so entirely changed his views, that he was now enthusiastically sustaining Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation. On the very day of the disarming of the insubordinates, he had halted his command just before it left town, and requested them to give three cheers for the Union. It was heartily given. "Now three cheers for the Proclamation of Emancipation," and the response was three hearty cheers. This man was loyal, with a high loyalty his murderers could never understand. When the report of his murder became known in Oregon, no darker hour, dark with horror and apprehension, ever rested over its people.

It became so certain that the war must end with the Union saved, as early as 1864, that the people of Holt County soon began to find affairs settling down into the regular order. Population began to come in and people began to breathe freely. Militia business became at a discount, and men of great military (militia) genius, disappeared reluctantly from the public gaze. One of the first evidences that peace was returning, was the efforts made to establish a newspaper. In June, 1865 (30th day), appeared the first number of the Holt County Sentinel, under the management of Charles W. Bowman, a Holt County boy, who had been connected with the News in old days. A remark in his introduction will show how matters were: "There is a

fine line drawn between radical Union men in Holt, severing them in twain—a line so fine we cannot tell where it begins and where it ends. We ought not to be able to draw such a line between loyal men, on the question of loyalty. On this there is one question only—a man is a patriot or a traitor. There is no neutral ground. If a man wishes to be thought loyal, he will act with Radical Republicans. If he is a rebel outright or a sympathizer, mark if he does not identify himself with the Conservatives." This latter part is inconsistent with the former. The iron clad oath, we are told by the Sentinel, must be taken within sixty days atfer the 4th of July, 1865, by all voters, attorneys, bishops, priests, deacons—all officers, trustees, directors, etc. This oath was such that no one who ever sympathized could take it. Moreover, it provided for punishing any such that might take it. An innocent suspect dare not, for he was sure to be indicted. The constitution and oath were the work of Drake. Nothing but great public danger could have justified such an oath. The danger was over and here it was. It was the law until it might be declared unconstitutional. No hope for the disfranchised until the party in power should fall in two from its very magnitude. Blank oaths of loyalty were advertised and being sworn was the order of the day. Many farms at this time were advertised for sale that were owned by men who dare not return home, or felt it was unsafe to stay here. Land never was so cheap. The main political question was whether we should grant the ballot to the negro. On this, the radicals of Holt were almost a unit in its favor.

Over 500 men had left Holt County to enlist under the Union banner, and about one-half of our citizens had gone into the rebel service, and the population was quite small. Though the war was ended, yet our soldiers had not all been discharged. We notice that Governor Fletcher, of Missouri, at that time threatened to "sternly enforce the law as to the oaths of preachers and teachers." So says the Sentinel.

Railroad talk revived and, in September, 1865, it was announced that Phelps proposed to take the contract to build from Council Bluffs to St. Joseph. Questions of some political interest in connection therewith came up later.

Rumors were thick as to brigands and robbers, during the fall of 1865, and for a year later. Men banded together and visited those obnoxious to them, ordering them to leave the country and robbing them of such valuables as they could find. Men of southern proclivities, who had served in Union armies and returned home with honorable discharges, were peculiarly liable to such visitations. Many of them lived under constant apprehensions, prepared to hide at a moment's notice. A visit to John C. Hinkle's house, by a band of these cowardly villians, who began to abuse a quiet, civil man they found there and robbed, caused Hinkle to fire upon them from his concealment.

Of course the robbers fled, some of them crying, "Don't shoot—for God's sake!" This affair caused great excitement. Good men felt that this condition of things must end. The Sentinel exclaimed: "No man can be safe. Shall this country be ruled by thieves?" An old citizen, J. D. Perkins, had visited Holt County to sell some land. He was stopping for a few days with a Mr. Poindexter, at Forest City. He had received a large payment, and one night was aroused from his sleep by armed men, in his room, who demanded his money. Not satisfied with what they found they took him out to hang him in the street, having surrounded the house and thus imprisoned the occupants. In the darkness and confusion the old man slipped away from the robbers. Perkins hastily left next day, after describing them. "They are well known to be in our midst," the Sentinel said. Such was the general intimidation that nothing was ever done towards punishing the depredators. It may not be improper to state here that, nearly, if not quite, all the ring-leaders in the worst of these affairs met with disgraceful ends—some with bloody deaths.

In January, 1866, the great question was as to who should be "superintendent of registration." Should it be one who would sternly enforce the oath called "iron clad," and discourage those who were "tainted?" The very fact that some men held such a position was enough to deter the timid from registering their names. On the other hand, if a man held the place who was not exactly "all right" himself, what a prospect was this for the weak and feeble opposition to gather strength. This was the most interesting question to the various counties for no little time. Captain Edgar H. Allen was proposed very generally, and, soon after, received the position. At this time there were signs of a split in the one party that ruled the county. The Senitnel expressed itself as satisfied with the result of the convention that nominated, unaniomusly, Captain Allen for Superintendent, but promised to handle some men without gloves thereafter.

At this time A. M. Swan had arrived in Holt County, and proposes to stir up old Fogydom, on the questions of roads, bridges, schools, an academy for Holt Cunty, a soldier's monument, a brass band, railroads, sidewalks, a history, general modes of doing business, weights, measure, wages and some other matters. He and I. C. Buzic, of Mound City, began to move actively in politics. Prior to this time and just before the end of the war, the Radical managers had laid their plans to hold the soldier vote. The greater majority of the soldiers had voted the Democratic ticket before the war. How very easy it would be to have them vote that ticket again, unless means were taken to prevent it. And it must be confessed that there was not that bitter animosity in the breasts of soldiers towards the "moderates and conservatives" that existed among the civilians. The manner in which this policy was carried out was long seen in the vote that

gave Holt County the title of "Banner Republican County of Missouri." The first principle of that policy was "give all the offices to returned soldiers who have influence with their comrades." By neglect of the same policy, some counties were, ere long, about equally divided between the two parties.

The only political excitement in the spring of 1866, was the quarrel between President Johnson and Congress. A great mass convention was called for March 24, headed, "Shall Rebels Rule the Nation? Shall Freedmen again be at the Rebel's mercy? Shall traitors and Copperheads shake hands in the capital of our nation over 'the Union as it was—the Constitution as it is?' These are the tremendous questions of the hour." Meetings were held and there was much speaking and resolving against Johnson "for his veto of the Freedman's Bill and addressing a rebel mob and being applauded by it." Radical Congress clubs were organibed and holding celebrations where Johnson was denounced as false to the principles of the party that elected him. Swan, Buzic, Markland and Irvine of Oregon and I. C. Parker and A. Mr. Sherman of St. Joseph spoke at the meetings and clubs.

Daring robberies were frequent all over the country. Guerrillas in open day perpetrated their acts of violence and rapine occasionally. It was then some men learned with what ease and impunity a few can enter a town and rob the surprised citizens. Some wondered that no one had as yet originated the art and mystery of robbing railroad trains and doubtless at this time was planted the seed of what later did result in systematic train robbery. The stage was robbed one afternoon in the upper part of the county. Two passengers only were in it, Swan, and a Mr. Clark of Illinois. A few days previous, Swan, in company with William Kaucher, the sheriff, and A. N. Ruley, had been robbed by these men, in the afternoon, as they were going to Oregon in a carriage.

In July, 1866, the Sentinel urged that "the Germans should have recognition by the radical party. Holt County had been settled thirty-five years. It would have been settled as many centuries by some people ere it would have produced a respectable apple or a domestic grape, but for the Germans." It was declared by some one in the Sentinel's columns that "when natives assumed the traitor's badge, or occupied neutral ground, and the few loyal men knew not which way to turn for consolation or for comfort, the spies of secession were moving everywhere on the hunt for true men to spot and destroy them, the sound of the German language was always the music of the Union and the brogue of Hans synonymous with friendship and freedom."

The early part of the campaign of the fall of 1866 was very bitter between the friends of Parker, and Loan, of St. Joseph,

on the Congressional question. Finally Parker withdrew and ran for circuit attorney. The November election resulted in the choice of Loan for congressman, Buzic for representative, Captain Allen for circuit clerk, Captain Roecker for sheriff, Davis for county clerk, Captain Baskins for superintendent of registration and Bonham, of Andrew County, was elected state senator.

As an evidence of the condition of parties, we give the vote: The whole vote cast was 807—Loan received 762; Hawley, Opposition, got 45. The contest of this election turned mostly the question of bolting a nomination or two, and there was some bitterness displayed by friends of the bolting candidates and the others—all confined, however, within the only party then controlling or manifesting existence.

The first suggestions about building a poor house were made during the autumn and winter of 1866 and 1867. The president vetoed the Freedman's bill, and gave parties ground for difference. The Radicals of Holt and the Northwest failed not to use this veto as a lever. Representative Buzic, in the House, offered resolutions endorsing the proposition of Congressman Loan, to impeach the president. When party split rages high, he who rails loudest is most popular in his faction. At such times, very ordinary men come to the fore. Throughout the land those who denounced the president most became most conspicuous for a time. This was the political complexion until after the impeachment trial, and the blind rage of men subsided.

The railroad was no longer a political question. It was now completed to Bartlett from Council Bluffs, and the directors had agreed to finish it to St. Joseph. By February, 1867, it was announced that the company had forever abandoned all idea of using the old roadbed because of its worthless construction and the heavy grade of its route. The bottom route was adopted, because it was almost perfectly level.

The dramshop question was more strongly agitated during the winter and spring of 1867 than ever before or since. Petitions against license poured into the county court. Those favorable to license took the ground that the court could not refuse license if the party asking it complied with the requirements of the law in all respects. Those opposed maintained that the power of the court was absolute, and that though every voter in the country petitioned for license the court might lawfully refuse. The discussion before the court occupied two days. The decision was adverse to the granting of licenses. The case was carried to the supreme court, which affirmed the decision of the county court, declaring the whole matter as to not granting the license was entirely within the power of the county courts.

The bill to grant state aid to railroads passed the legislature this season. There was some talk as to the propriety of this

among the people of Holt County, and for the first time they had their attention directed to the influence of corporations over legislation, and how that influence over their members was obtained. The seed of future agitation on the Grange subject was planted here.

The alarm from guerillas had by no means subsided, and reports of terrible outrages were frequent from neighboring counties. A certain toast drank in the streets of Easton, Missouri, by a robber band, became proverbial among some classes for a time. It ran thus: "Here is luck to the man who pulled the trigger that fired the gun that killed the man who freed the nigger."

Efforts were made to get more aid for railroads. Three hundred thousand dollars were asked for from the people of Holt and adjoining counties. St. Joseph granted $210,000 out of this amount. One speaker, at a meeting in Holt, said he would ask its people for only $25,000, in consideration of how much they had lost from the previous grant. Some one very pertinently asked, through the papers, "If the Platte County Railroad Company got $1,100,000 and expended only $500,000 in building a worthless roadbed and ran off with the remainder, after going before us pledged to finish the work, what security have we that Joy & Co. will do any better?" By this time, August 9, 1867, the Missouri River had left Forest City, and the people were practically without a landing, so it was very necessary to have a railroad.

The impeachment of the President was the great question of general agitation in September, 1867. Stanton had been removed, Grant had accepted the office against Stanton's protest; Sheridan had been removed from the Fifth District and Grant had publicly protested against that act of the President. People were looking about for candidates for the next presidential campaign. The Radicals of Holt County had as yet no confidence in Grant. The Sentinel says: "So far Grant has left us in doubt as to his position. But we have Chase, Stanton, Colfax and others, about whom there is no doubt." There was some talk of negro suffrage at the time. A court of common pleas for Holt County was agitated and arrangements made to get a bill through. But there were so many aspirants for the position of judge of that still subjective court it embarrassed the projectors. It was asked, too, by some, whether men who never read law were fit for such office? The matter was finally settled by the bill giving four terms of the circuit court to Holt County instead of two, as previously.

The greenback question first loomed up about January, 1868. One party proposed the payment of the 5.10 and 10.40 bonds in greenbacks. The Republicans said they were payable in gold. The Sentinel calls on the Radicals to be up and doing;

reproves them for their apathy. A great meeting of the party was to come off at Jefferson City, February 22d. "Drake, that mighty pillar of Republicanism," issued a proclamation to the people. All this was in anticipation of the impeachment trial and its results. If it succeeded, civil war was almost certain to follow, for once more party rage and violence was preparing, behind the forms of law or under pretext of law, to carry matters to extremities. Four leading Republicans voted against the impeachment and all was quiet thenceforth.

The nomination of General Grant was hailed with satisfaction by the great mass of voters in the county. I. C. Parker was nominated for Congress, subject to the action of the proper convention, which nominated Col. Asper, of Chillicothe, Parker runing for judge.

The first effort to revive the Democratic party in the county, was made preparatory to this campaign. In July, the Expose began to be published at Forest City, and announced its "policy to be opposition to the party whose object is to make the national debt as light as possible on the bond holding aristocrats." A convention of that party was held at Forest City, at which appeared several of the quondam rulers in party politics of the antibellum days. The Sentinel spoke of it as quite a reminder of old times. The Republicans of the state ran McClurg for governor; the Democrats ran Phelps, with Norman J. Coleman for Lieutenant Governor; Oliver, of St. Joseph, for Congress. Charles D. Drake canvassed Northwest Missouri, and visited Holt County.

The vote at the fall election in Holt County showed that Grant received 1,080; Seymour 137.

For congress, Asper received 1,020 votes, and Oliver 165. This vote on congressman was the most reliable test of each party's strength, for personal popularity drew Democratic votes to Grant, while there was nothing in the circumstances, or antecedents of Asper and Oliver, to give either of them more or less than the noraml strength of their parties.

Parker was elected circuit judge, Roseberry, of Nodaway County state senator, Glenn was elected representative, Asper was chosen for congress, and the state gave Grant a very great majority. In this election the Republican newspapers claim that Holt County showed herself the banner Republican county of the state, having given over eighty-seven per cent of her vote for that party.

Mr. Bowman retiring from the Sentinel, Mr. A. N. Ruley, former circuit clerk, assumed the control, February 5, 1869. Mr. Ruley had held the clerkship from the time the offices had been generally vacated by an order during the war.

The war spirit died down slowly, though some few seemed desirous of keeping it up, finding occupation and importance going with it. One of the last reminders of a time lately passed, was an order published March 19, 1869, as follows:

"Members of late Company A, Order 107, can get discharges by calling on the undersigned.

CAPT. G. W. BASKINS."

The poorhouse question was sharply revived by the publication of a statement that a poor woman died of starvation. The folly, improvidence and stupidity of pretending to care for the poor, by a system of doling out thousands of dollars annually, and then letting the poor suffer, was so shown up that the court took decisive steps, and soon erected a county infirmary.

In July, 1869, Mr. Adam Klippel took charge of the Sentinel, which he thereafter published for several years. There was a complete calm in politics until in 1870, the negro and rebel suffrage question began to come up. Never did any party manage with greater wisdom than did the Democratic party of Missouri at this time. With all against them, they waited and watched events. Meeting at Jefferson City, March 18, 1870, they merely resolved it was inexpedient to nominate. If aid to that party did not come from the Republicans, its case was hopeless. The Republican, like old Rome, "labored with its own bigness." The suffrage question was still agitated. "Would it do to give it to the black and withhold it from white men, by continuing the iron-clad oath and stern registration?" Every man of the dominant party felt that a large number of men, who were in all respects the very best citizens, were kept from the polls. Every man could point to individual instances and say it is a shame that such and such men have to stand back like former slaves. The sympathy was great and growing, but one false step by office seeking Democrats, might ruin all.

The Democrats, except in here and there a county, were not going to take that step. So when the Republican Convention met at Jefferson City, September, 1870, after a stormy session of three days, it divided. One faction said the time had come when the people should vote on the question. The other faction was willing that the question should be put to the people whether the time had really come. Two tickets were in the field. The Republicans of Holt County were for the McClurg, or more radical faction. Parker was nominated for Congress by just one vote, over Asper, who had served but one term. The Sentinel warned the Republicans that they were confronted by a strong opposing minority. Carl Schurz visited Holt County, canvassing for the Liberals, or B. Gratz Brown men. At first it was rumored that Col. Asper would bolt also. The Expose, of Forest City, which had been purchased by the Bowman Brothers and changed

to the Independent, was the organ of the Independents. D. P. Ballard, who was the regular nominee of the Republicans for representative, had lately taken charge of it, and most unaccountably bolted his own ticket and certain success, and turned in to denouncing his whilom confreres; an anomaly in politics. The county committee, in view of the short time, merely recommended that Capt. Robinson, of Forest City, be voted for as the regular nominee. A few men ran as Independents. At the election the entire radical Republican ticket for the county was victorious, with the exception of Horace Cooper, for probate judge, who was defeated by R. H. Russell, Democrat. McClurg, for governor, got 413 majority over Brown. For supreme judge, Wagner got 1,222 votes; there being no opposition, this vote shows the strength of the county. Parker was elected to Congress; Kelly was chosen judge; Robinson, representative by 473 majority. In the state, however, the Liberals triumphed by a very great majority, and thus ended the rule of the undivided Republican party in Missouri.

At Oregon there was held a jollification over the results in the county and district, while at Forest City there was a similar demonstration for the liberal success in the state. The constitutional amendments were also adopted by a great majority, and freedom, with equal rights, for the first time ruled the state.

In April, 1871, we hear the first public complaints of the railroads, that soon culminated in the Granger movements. In June Valandigham proclaimed the New Departure of the Democratic party. Efforts were, at this time, made to unite the Republican party once more. In Holt County that effort was powerfully aided by the call to reorganize the Democratic party once more and the convention at Forest City. The attendance was represented, by the Sentinel, as quite large and enthusiastic. The most prominent actors in it were Messrs. Russel, Scott, Levi Zook, Dr. Johnson of Craig, J. W. Stokes, Harry A. Buel of the Arago Press, J. W. Collins and others.

There was a special election for circuit judge and attorney, at which Kelley, for judge, received 814 votes and Collins, his Democratic opponent, 656 votes, and Dungan, Republican, for circuit attorney, received 905, and Byrd 435 votes. This election, as a trial of strength between the two parties in the county, under the new state of things, was most interesting. The vote for judge showed the full strength of each party, under tremendous efforts.

We have now given an impartial account of the political affairs of Holt County, in connection with those of the state and nation, as well as those confined strictly to the county itself, in as brief a manner as we were able. We have seen it first under control, absolutely, of one party—have seen that party divide—one wing rushing into sectional and civil war. Then we have

seen it under a half civil, half military rule, finally emerging out under control, as absolute, of a party whose very existence was at one time not tolerated by its citizens. We have witnessed the long triumph and rule of that party, till finally, in the very nature of things, it must fall apart—one faction to rule the state, the oher, and more radictal, to still hold the reigns of power in Holt County, though ruined in the state. We have witnessed the first faint attempts of an opposition party at forming within the county, and have seen how, on a well contested field, out of 1,470 votes cast, it received 656 of them, a result that every generous, intelligent mind should rejoice over. For, if the past has taught up anything, it is the danger to our free institutions of the absolute rule of one party, for virtue and truth still flee, as of old, from all places where power is unquestioned.

Since that memorable day of the meeting in the court house park, when an excited mob of Secessionists made men of order and peace tremble not only for themselves, but for all that was held most dear and sacred since that time, practically of all the people then living, have gone to the land of shadows; boys then sporting thoughtlessly, have become very old men—lisping babes are well past middle age. The whole destiny of the country is now in the hands of those who then were unborn. As to the Southern states, of over one million and one hundred and twenty-four thousand men, whom that day saw in proud and vigorous life, ready and determined to battle for their cause, ere four years had passed away, over six hundred and sixty thousand had been killed or disabled; more by many thousands than all their men between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years! "Half a generation of men dead or disabled!" Such were the reflections of men in the days of 1865. Since that year, in due course of nature, most of all the people then living have died, and in those Southern states all the slaves have been made free, and all their adult men advanced to the dignity of equal voters. Surely the day has come long since for us to forget that such wild times ever have been, and look with contempt upon those who would try to perpetuate in fresh bosoms the seeds of ancient, sectional hatred between North and South.

The election when Grant and Greeley ran as candidates for president, following so closely after the Civil war was full of interest. It showed that Holt County could cast 2,248 votes, out of which she gave Grant 557 majority, and to Parker, for congress, 434 majority. Some changes were made in the congressional district, by which the Democratic party secured the congressman for the two terms succeeding Judge Parker, Mr. David Rea, of Andrew County, being elected. At two elections for congressmen she cast her vote for Nicholas Ford, the Greenback candidate. This was done by a coalescence between the Republicans and Greenbackers, which was made, not only in

the county, but in the district, and succeeded in electing Mr. Ford both times.

During recent years there has been little of interest in the political history of the county. There has been no great upheaval or disturbance to set one class of men against another. Elections have been held with their accustomed regularity and have uniformly passed off without incident worthy of notice here. There have been political differences and the campaigns have been heated, of course, but that pales into insignificance as compared with the stirring times in the late '50's and early '60's. Holt County has remained steadfastly in the Republican column, although Democrats are sometimes elected to important offices. The normal Republican majority is 400 to 600, depending on the nature of the issues entering into the contest. But from the date above referred to until the present time Holt County has invariably given a majority at presidential elections for the Republican nominee.

CHAPTER IX.

AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS.—SOIL OF EXCELLENT CHARACTER.—CEREAL PRODUCTION.—FRUIT LANDS.—COUNTY FAIRS.—HOLT COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL SOCIETY—NURSERIES AND FRUIT GROWING.—PEOPLE.

Holt County has often been referred to by non-residents—men, too, competent to speak on the subject—as the garden spot of the world. It has been said by these disinterested persons that this county could come nearer supporting itself with the products of the soil than any other section of land of like size in the United States. By this is meant that a greater variety of food products grow out of the soil in Holt County than elsewhere. So far as food is concerned the people of this political sub-division are independent of the rest of the world. They could live like lords without the importation of a single article of food.

This is due to two principal facts—the excellent and varied quality of Holt County soil and the thrift and industry of her people. Of course the soil is the first requisite. Given that the rest is comparatively easy if the owners and tenants have the disposition to work it properly. That this disposition is shown here is clearly demonstrated by the large shipments of all kinds of farm products to other markets each year. After producing an abundance for their own needs the good people of Holt County send their surplus to other sections where the God of nature has not smiled so pleasantly upon the inhabitants.

The soil is of such character that it retains moisture with a remarkable tenacity, and the natural drainage in the uplands has been so admirably adjusted in the economy of nature that but little, if any, of the cultivated lands are ever damaged by water. In the Missouri and Nodaway bottoms, large tracts which formerly were considered unfit for cultivation have been brought under the plow and harrow by the hand of man. Drainage districts have been organized and drainage work developed to a degree that would seem like a revelation to the pioneers who sought out the hill lands and gave little heed to the rich soil in the bottoms which, at that time, grew nothing but bluestem grass and willows.

Looking back over the years that are gone one sees, not a long, uninterrupted season of abundance, for the most productive areas in the world have their lean years. One of these was the drouth of 1881, when practically every section of the United States suffered unprecedented losses from crop failure. In many of them absolutely nothing was raised and actually suffered

from lack of food resulted. Not so in Holt County. While the yield was far below the average, it is said by those who were here at the time that at least half a crop of nearly all cereals, vegetables and fruits were realized. The grass for pasture withstood the effects of the dry weather exceptionally well. The crop was as abundant and nutritious as on the preceding year. This assisted materially in the production of cattle and sheep for food and horses for the activities of the following crop year.

Agriculture received a decided setback as a result of the Civil war, as it did all the other counties in this and adjoining states. The devastation and ruin wrought by that terrible conflict left its impress upon the country for a long time. The days of reconstruction were hard ones for the people of Holt County and many interesting stories are told of the struggles that were necessary in order to get matters righted, agriculturally, after the war. It was the acid test for the integrity, perseverance and spirit of the populace, but there was at no time any doubt about the outcome. The people were here to win against all odds and they did win.

As if the depression and desolation following the war were not enough, the grasshoppers came in 1866, 1874 and 1875. This was much like adding the last straw to the already overburdened camel. But still the people persevered. The grasshopper scourage left them with little for the winter, but they did not complain. Confident of the power of the grand resources of their soil, and ever hopeful of better days, they scorned, at the hour of their calamity, to solicit the aid of their more fortunate neighbors, and ultimately triumphed over the ills which were poured upon them by malignant fortune. Phoenix-like, Holt County has risen from the wreck of every calamity, more beautiful and enduring than before, and today, she presents to the world a spectable of solid growth and substantial wealth, of which many an older and more fortunate community might be justly proud.

No county in the state has, perhaps, a greater number of pure, living streams of water than has Holt County; veining its surface in every direction, they afford an abundance of water for both man and beast, convenient to almost every quarter section. Good well water can be obtained at an average depth of twenty-five feet.

Although not claiming to be the banner county in Missouri in the production of cereals and live stock, yet Holt County ranks well up toward the top one year with another. Statistics for any one year would be of little value here, as they would soon be out of date and the story attempted to be told by them would be unreliable. The county stands well to the fore as a corn producing section. The gross yield has increased year by year as more land has been brought under cultivation. It is

believed that Holt and the other counties in Northwest Missouri show, one year with another, a greater yield per acre than any other section of corresponding size in the state. Indeed comparisons with other states could be made to the advantage of these counties. It is nothing unusual for a farmer to report—and prove his statement—that he has raised fifty, sixty or seventy-five bushels of corn per acre. In fact cases of 100 bushel yields have been reported in exceptionally good years.

More attention has been given to the production of wheat in recent years. In the pioneer days the farmer raised wheat because he needed it to "bread" his family. Later he turned his attention more in the direction of corn and hogs and bought his flour from the grocery man. Things had changed so that he found it more profitable to do this. But wheat came back into its own, the land needed a change of crop and the production of wheat throughout the world lessened in proportion to the consumption of flour. This made wheat raising more attractive and now large shipments are made each year to the markets of the world and the farmer, of course, keeps what he needs for his own use.

Oats form an important crop, too. In earlier days oats were used principally as feed for horses and rotation of crops for the benefit of the soil was about the only excuse for raising them. But with the development of the time oats came to be used extensively in the manufacture of food stuffs, thereby adding greatly to the commercial value of the crop. The production increased quite naturally.

Barley and hemp are farm products which have practically disappeared from Holt County. In the early days both crops were produced in abundance, but the times have changed. The pioneer mode of living made hemp a desired and necessary article and the same might be said of flax. But there is no longer the same need for their production and the fertile acres of Holt County are devoted to more remunerative crops.

In the raising of live stock this county has risen to a place well toward the top of the list. Not only does she claim rank for the number of animals produced annually, but the quality has been improved year after year, until now very few of the old time "scrub" cattle and "rail-splitting" hogs are to be found within the county. Some of the best bred hogs and cattle in the country are to be found here, in fact the first thoroughbred cattle in this part of the state were brought here by J. G. Cowan, of which mention is made later.

The farmers have never turned their attention to sheep raising in any special manner. In 1881 there were about 4,000 sheep in the county, but the number has dwindled until a sheep is a curiosity to the younger generation. The climate is well

adapted to sheep raising, but it seems the farmers have found other live stock more profitable.

It has been said by experts that there are few places anywhere in the world more suitable to the cultivation of fruit than the southern part of Holt County. It is here that the loes formation is found and, while the same kind of soil is found in Germany and other countries, the quality is said to be inferior to that of Holt County. There is in the hills and bluffs at the base of which the town of Forbes stands, a strip of country about ten miles long by three wide. The hills and hollows of this remarkable locality formerly abounded, in ordinary seasons, with a superior variety of wild blackberries. These constituted a valuable item of local export, and the amount gathered and shipped annually was almost incredible. In one year, about 1880, the peak of production of this delicious fruit was reached, when nearly 40,000 quarts were shipped from the town of Forbes.

But this amount was comparatively small when contrasted with the vast quantities hauled away by wagon. In the height of the season as many as forty two-horse wagons passed through the streets of Forbes in a single day, laden with blackberries gathered in the near-by hills and hollows. The section referred to was known as the "Big Blackberry Patch." It was so thickly covered that a person not familiar with the country could easily lose his way and wander about for hours before his friends could find him.

The fact that this land would produce such a remarkable crop of wild fruit soon attracted the attention of the horiculturist and nurseryman. It was patent that domestic fruits would grow there, too. It was thus that this section of the county became famed for the fruits it would produce. The farmers soon turned their attention to raising peaches, apples, grapes and other fruits. During the year before mentioned when blackberries were so plentiful there was shipped from Forbes nearly ten thousand boxes of superior budded peaches.

One of the men who first engaged in fruit raising with success was George Meyer, whose location on the oldest settled farm in the county added interest to the undertaking. His orchards of about thirty acres of apples, peaches, plums, pears, etc., attracted much attention in the early days and, in fact, such enterprises are not without interest nowadays. Of apples alone, he had at one time nearly one hundred varieties. At the St. Joseph Exposition in 1873, at which was the finest display of fruit that had been exhibited in the state at that time, he had on exhibition no less than two hundred varieties of apples. For this display he was awarded the sum of $200, the largest premium offered by the society.

Mr. Meyer began orcharding in 1854. At that time there were thirty-five trees on his farm. They had been planted in

1851 by the man from whom he bought his land. His advancement along horticultural lines was steady and permanent, and until he moved from his splendid farm to spend his declining years in Oregon, he took great interest in his trees and vines. Mr. Meyer died in Oregon April 16, 1914, at the age of 87 years.

While Mr. Meyer was developing his apple orchard, N. F. Murray was getting a start in another branch of fruit culture. He liked peach raising and concluded that the southern part of Holt County was a likely place for the culture of that delicious fruit. Later experiences proved the soundness of his reasoning. The once barren hills of the timbered region were admirably suited for this purpose. Mr. Murray began in 1868 on his farm three and a half miles northeast of Forbes. He first planted 500 peach trees. Each year he added more until he had 3,000 bearing trees, of fifty choice varieties, and all of them were producing fruit. The total receipts from fruit sold from the first 500 peach trees planted, was $50 an acre for a number of years after the orchard began bearing. In time the fruit industry on this farm became known as the Murray Brothers Orchard. It was well advertised and had a reputation that extended far beyond the confines of the state. After twenty-five years' experience in fruit raising in this section, N. F. Murray gave it as his opinion that Forbes Township possessed certain natural advantages for fruit culture unsurpassed anywhere in these latitudes. "The peculiar elements of soil, admirable natural drainage and absence of excessive humidity in the atmosphere, combined with other natural advantages, renders this one of the finest fruit countries on the continent," said Mr. Murray. The mutations and developments of time have proved these words to be those of a prophet. The many fruit farms that dot the hills and adorn the valleys in southern Holt County are a living testimonial to the foresight of the man who made the foregoing statement. There is scarcely a farm in this section which has not its orchard and, in many cases, its vineyard, by which is meant an acre or more devoted to small fruit.

It was estimated, in the early days, that Holt County had 25,000 acres of admirable fruit lands, much of which was unsuitable for the production of any other remunerative crop. Perhaps not all of these lands are planted to the trees and vines for which they are adapted, but it is true nevertheless that this industry has developed to proportions unthought of by Meyer and Murray when they began planting trees in the Forbes Township hills. This land, at one time, was considered of little value—much of it was brought for $3 to $10 an acre and it took a good tract to bring $30 an acre. Now its value is not less than that of any other part of the county, the prevailing price ranging from $100 an acre upward. It has been estimated that if all of this fruit land were devoted to this purpose it would accommodate an orchard of four million trees, give employment to 3,000

hands and during the gathering season 10,000 persons would be required to handle the crop.

NURSERIES.

The orchard quite naturally brought the nursery. Where one thrives the other is bound to prosper. The two go hand in hand and both are profitable investments in the hands of the right persons. The first nursery in Holt County was established by Josiah Springer in the spring of 1853. It was a seedling nursery and consisted chiefly of apple trees which, instead of grafting, he budded where the first branches started from the stem. This nursery was located three miles southeast of Oregon, in Forbes Township. It was operated until the death of the proprietor, which occurred in 1858. Hugh Pennel budded his trees in the same way, and sold a few on his place, a mile and a half east of Oregon. This nursery, which was on a small scale, was started in 1855.

The first trees imported into the county were purchased by Dr. H. W. Peter, who afterward became a leading physician in Louisville, Ky. They were bought from Ellwanger & Barry, of Rochester, N. Y., in 1858. In the spring of 1859 Dr. Peter and George P. Luckhardt associated themselves in business under the firm name of Peter & Luckhardt, and imported from the nursery of Ellwanger & Barry, a large number of trees. In the fall of 1859, Dr. Peter, Ira Peter and E. H. Burches entered into partnership and purchased 160 acres of land adjoining the town of Oregon on the south and west. The entire tract was planted to nursery stock. They also built a greenhouse. This enterprise prospered until the breaking out of the Civil war in 1861, when, in common with many other kindred interests it was forced to succumb to the inevitable consequences of those disastrous times.

George P. Luckhardt, in 1866, purchased eighty acres adjoining the northwest corner of the townsite of Oregon. He embarked extensively in the nursery business, in which he continued for about twenty years. He planted never less than 75,000 apple grafts a year and the business prospered from the start.

In the spring of 1873 Mr. Luckhardt had planted 175,000 apple grafts, seventeen and one-half bushels of peach seed, four bushels of apple seed, one bushel of apricot seed, one bushel of Maccard cherry seed, and one-half bushel of Mahalleb cherry seed. All this, with the promise of splendid results, was up and growing luxurantly, until 9 o'clock on the morning of May 15th, when a cloud of grasshoppers descending, a besom of destruction, swept from the face of the earth the entire growth. In four hours, this beautiful picture of promising vegetation had entirely disappeared, nothing but the barkless twigs and sprouts remain-

ing on the bare ground to mark the recent presence of suddenly obliterated verdure.

The damage occasioned by this terrible visitation extended, besides, to 60,000 two-year-old apple trees, 80,000 yearlings and about 20,000 three-year-old trees. The entire loss thus sustained by Mr. Luckhardt, amounted to about $10,000. Though terrible beyond expression, the scourge failed to prove permanent in its results, and Luckhardt's nursery revived and achieved the reputation which kept it in the list of live business enterprises in Oregon for a number of years.

On the eighty-acre tract on which his nursery was located Mr. Luckhardt had also an orchard of thirty-five acres, containing several thousand fruit trees. Besides the apple which constituted the bulk of the orchard, there were peach, apricot, cherry, pear and plum trees. In his later years Mr. Luckhardt devoted much of his time to the cultavation of pears. He gave the subject a great deal of study and was an authority on pear culture. He was always in demand at horticultural society meetings when information was wanted on pear culture.

On the lawn in front of his residence Mr. Luckhardt kept a stately grove, containing nearly every variety of evergreen grown in this latitude. Mr. Luckhardt died November 30, 1901, but the evergreen trees he planted are still there, a mute, but charming monument to the memory of an enterprising citizen.

In 1852 Felix Fraley started a small nursery at the north end of Oregon. This he operated until 1864 when he sold out and turned his attention to wine growing.

In 1878 William Gaunt commenced near the town of Craig, a nursery to which reference will be found in the chapter devoted to that locality.

Hanson Murray and his son, N. F. Murray, started a nursery eight miles southeast of Oregon in 1868. The death of the senior Murray occurred in 1874. He came here from Morgan County, Missouri, in 1869. He settled there in 1863 with the idea of establishing a nursery, but not finding the soil and conditions suitable, moved to Holt County, and it is not indicated anywhere in the records that he ever had cause to regret the change. With him came another son, Linville Murray, who engaged in the nursery business on his own account.

The Murray nurseries which have stood the storms of many years, were established by Hanson Murray and his son, Nicholas F. Upon the death of his father, Nicholas assumed the management of the business. He was an indefatiguable worker, a close student of every branch of horticulture and was generally known as one of the live wires of Holt County. The business grew and prospered under his management. In his later years he was

associated in the business with Silas Bucher, now engaged in fruit raising in Idaho. Nicholas F. Murray died May 26, 1908, but the industry to which he had devoted the energies of a busy life, still lives. It is now in the charge and under the management of his son, George R. Murray.

A generation or more ago the town of Oregon resembled one large orchard and vineyard combined. Many of the early settlers engaged in grape growing and converted this grand fruit into wines for their own use. Some of it was sold. Many of these vineyards adjoined the town and others were inside the corporate limits. Gradually this industry extended to the country eastward where many Germans had settled. The same is true regarding a portion of the county adjacent to Mound City, Craig and Corning. In recent years, however, grape culture has not been carried on for the purpose of wine making to any considerable extent.

Another industry which flourished in the early days was the manufacture of sorghum. Samuel H. Whitmer was the pioneer in this line. He started a mill near Oregon in 1876, operating at first on a small scale. The enterprise met with fair encouragement and steadily progressed and for several years it gave employment to a number of men during the late summer and autumn months. In the fall of 1879 the product of this plant was 4,600 gallons. This was the highest amount produced for sorghum, in time gave way to other forms of sweetness.

Henry Zachman also operated a sorghum factory in the county. He was located in Hickory township and continued in business for several years.

FAIRS.

The first entertainment by an Agricultural and Mechanical Association in Holt County was held at a point northeast of and adjoining the corporate limits of Forest City.

These annual exhibitions, which were creditably conducted, and largely attended, occurred successively in 1858, 1859 and 1860, when the breaking out of the Civil war put an end to the enterprise. The late William Zook was, during the three years of its continuance, president of the association, and R. E. Turner, who later became one of the wealthy wholesale merchants of St. Joseph, was secretary. The records from which detailed information concerning these fairs has long since passed out of existence, and there only remains the memory that, in their day, they were regarded as complete successes.

A period of eight years elapsed before a similar enterprise was inaugurated in the establishment of the Holt Coutny Agricultural and Mechanical Society. On March 28, 1868, the fol-

lowing named persons assembled in the court house in the town of Oregon, and organized the above named society: E. VanBuskirk, Samuel Watson, R. C. Watson, I. H. Iddings, J. G. Cowan, T. K. Slaughter, H. Watson, Isaac L. Wray, Charles W. Bowman, Bennett King, George Cummins, Ehpriam Oren, Watson Baker, Samuel Stuckey, John Marsh, M. Saville, Peter Price, William Kaucher, John Kyle, W. B. Davis, E. L. Allen, Henry Meyer, R. H. Russell, W. M. Patterson, Quincy A. Gordon, William Baker, T. C. Dungan, Horace Cooper, Solomon Loffer, Allen T. Bloomer, F. M. Caison, F. S. Howard, Joseph Polly, J. H. C. Curtis and M. Spoerle. The formality of organization was carried forward by the election of the following named directors: Eastern District of Lewis Township, E. VanBuskirk and Bennett King; Western District of Lewis Township, W. A. McCoy; Nodaway Township, John G. Cowan and I. H. Iddings; Clay Township, W. M. Patterson; Benton Township, H. S. Busick; Union Township, George P. Skeels; Dallas Township, T. K. Slaughter. The following named officers were elected at a subsequent meeting: John G. Cowan, president; Charles W. Bowman, secretary; William A. McCoy, treasurer and Bennett King, collector. At the next meeting held April 20, 1868, E. VanBuskirk was elected vice-president and William Kaucher, corresponding secretary. The bond of the treasurer was fixed at $2,000 at this meeting. At a meeting held April 29, 1868, Bennett King, E. VanBuskirk and W. A. McCoy were appointed a committee to purchase grounds for the use of the society. George Meyer was later added to the committee.

This committee reported at a meeting held in Oregon, May 28, 1868, that they had negotiated with R. H. Russell for the purchase of a tract of land adjoining the corporate limits of Oregon. The price was $120 per acre, the seller reserving the largest timber. The report was approved and the committee ordered to have the tract, which contained ten acres, surveyed. At a meeting held July 31, 1868, it was determined that the time for holding the first annual fair should be October 14, 15 and 16. The following general program for the fair was adopted at a meeting held September 25, 1868:

First day—Class E, jacks and jennets; class F, mules; all articles other than live stock competing for premiums to remain on exhibition during the entire fair.

Second day—Class A, cattle; D, horses; G, sheep; H, hogs; equestrian display by gentlemen.

Third day—Class B, stallions and mares; C, geldings; R, walking, trotting and pacing matches; W, display of horses, mules, cattle, hogs and poultry; equestrian display by ladies; slow mule race—no rider to ride his own mule. Premium for slowest mule, $5.

Two premiums were offered for millinery—Class P.

The following appointments of officers were made: Samuel Stuckey, Marshal; S. W. Thornton, Robert Markland, A. D. Stephens and D. P. Kyle, Assistant Marshals; George Colvin and John Masters, Gatekeepers.

In consequence of inclement weather on the 14th of October, the opening day of the fair was deferred until the following day and the exhibition was ordered to continue until the close of the 18th instead of the 17th as originally planned. The fair was well attended and proved a success.

At a meeting of the directors October 31, 1868, a statement of the financial operations of the organization was made by the treasurer. It is interesting at this time from the fact that it shows what a small amount of money was necessary to finance such a proposition in those days as compared with the cost in later years. The report:

Society Fund—

Receipts	$ 772.80
Expenditures	735.81
Balance on hand Society Fund	$ 36.99

Joint Stock Fund—

Receipts from stock	$1,946.00
Expenditures	1,773.32
Balance on hand	$ 172.68

John G. Cowan remained in the office of president during the second year. A. N. Ruley was chosen secretary to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Charles W. Bowman, February 27, 1869. Ruley held office until the following July when he resigned and was succeeded by G. W. Cummins who continued in that capacity until the dissolution of the society in 1875.

The second fair was held Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, September 15, 16 and 17, 1869. The following report of the board of directors, made in January following, affords an interesting exhibit of the resources of the county at that period in its history:

"At the close of the second annual fair of this society, the membership numbers one hundred and eighteen of the most substantial citizens of the county and representatives of almost every class of industry, men who promptly came forward and gave of their means to aid in the permanent establishment of the society.

"With the means thus obtained, ten acres of elevated ground

adjoining the southwestern portion of the town of Oregon, were purchased by the society in the beginning of the year 1868, which is now worth, exclusive of the improvement thereon, two thousand dollars. The improvements consist of a fence seven feet in height and constructed at a cost of one thousand dollars; a floral hall built at a cost of one thousand six hundred dollars; a good well, costing one hundred dollars; seats, stalls and other improvements to the amount of three hundred more, making the total value of grounds and improvements five thousand dollars. Against this there is a total indebtedness of one thousand five hundred dollars. To meet this there is an outstanding stock subscription, payable January 1, 1870, amounting to five hundred dollars, still leaving a balance of indebtedness, amounting to one thousand dollars. The principal improvement necessary for properly conducting the annual fairs have been made, no difficulty is apprehended of the ability of the society to meet its obligations promptly.

"At the second annual fair of the society held at their fair grounds September 15, 16 and 17, 1869, one hundred and fifty-four premiums were awarded, amounting, in the aggregate to one thousand dollars. The live stock on exhibition included many fine specimens of horses, mules, jacks, jennets, cows, bulls, sheep, hogs, etc., and numbered in all, one hundred and thirty. The industrial department contained one hundred specimens, representing many of the most useful and ornamental articles of home production. Forty-six agricultural and horticultural entries were made, embracing wheat, corn, potatoes, apples, pears, peaches, plums, etc., of the best quality. The floral and fine art departments were well represented, but might have been more complete. An effort will be made at the next annual fair to give greater encouragement to these departments.

"The present year, despite the ravages of the grasshoppers in the spring and early part of the summer, and the extraordinary fall of rain, has been one of unusual prosperity in our county. Many new citizens have been added to our population; towns having sprung into existence as by magic, and thousands of acres of lands have been fenced and cultivated. The staple products of the county have increased, in many instances, more than one hundred fold. Fully one million bushels of good corn have been produced. Of this, the average price will not be less than forty cents per bushel. The product of wheat, rye, oats and barley, although injured by the grasshoppers, will not fall far short of two hundred thousand bushels. The number of bushels of apples for the year is estimated to exceed fifty thousand. Fifteen years ago, the product was less than two thousand five hundred bushels—very little more than is now produced in the City of Oregon alone. The number of bushels of pears will exceed two thousand, the average price of which will be at

least three dollars and fifty cents per bushel. Of other fruits, including grapes, cherries, plums, etc., our farmers have produced large quantities of the very best quality.

"The clip of wool is estimated to reach thirty thousand pounds annually. Of this a considerable portion is manufactured into cloth, etc., in the county.

"At the close of the season not less than thirty thousand head of hogs will have been marketed. These netting an average per head of at least $16, will amount to an aggregate of $480,000. Add to this the cattle, sheep, mules and other live stock sold during the year, and we have a total of sales of live stock for the year 1869 largely exceeding a half million dollars. To this may be added the surplus fruit, grain, firewood, saw logs, etc., and we find that our sales for the year amount to more than a million dollars.

G. W. CUMMINS,
Recording Secretary."

The fair seems to have prospered until about 1873. In that year the office of librarian was created and William Kaucher was chosen to fill it. In 1874, in an effort to keep the enterprise on its feet, twenty-eight citizens of Oregon and vicinity contributed an aggregate of $148. The premiums offered that year were considerably less than formerly, being only about fifteen hundred dollars for regular premiums and one hundred seven dollars for special. This was about one-half the amount of premiums awarded at some other periods of the organization. This was the last fair held by this society.

The last election for officers of the society was held March 20, 1875, when the following named were elected: John G. Cowan, President; George Meyer, Vice-President; R. Montgomery, Treasurer; G. W. Cummins, Recording Secretary; T. C. Dungan, Corresponding Secretary; Samuel Stuckey, Collector; Levi Oren, Marshall; William Kaucher, Librarian. An adjournment was taken to March 27, same year, but there is no record that the meeting ever was held. Shortly afterward John G. Cowan assumed the indebtedness in the grounds and property of the association, securing himself by a deed of trust. There being no prospect of the society being able to meet its obligation, Cowan foreclosed the mortgage and sold the property to a Mr. May. It later came into possession of D. M. Martin, and is now (1916) owned by Ulrich Burger.

The Maitland Fair was the next effort in the direction of a county exhibition for the use and benefit of farmers, business men and the people generally. This association was organized in 1882, with a capital stock of $8,000, which was shortly increased to $10,000. The first fair was held in September, that

year. William H. Maurer, who afterward became prominent in business in Chicago, was the first president and E. F. Weller, who has been in the banking business in Maitland for many years, was the first secretary.

The grounds were situated a short distance northeast of Maitland on the level ground of the Nodaway bottom. The half mile track was said to be one of the best in the west and some record time has been made there by the fast stepping horses which competed for the purses offered by the association. The exhibits of live stock were of surpassing excellence and the floral hall was always an attractive spot for the ladies, horticulturists and those who enjoyed looking at the products of the soil.

After nineteen years—which is a long time for one fair association to stay in business—the interest waned and the fair was discontinued in 1901. The grounds were sold under a mortgage for $1,300. Judge Leeper bought the property for $3,950, leaving a balance of $2,500 to be divided among the patriotic stockholders, after deducting the expenses of the sale.

Three years without a fair convinced the business men of Maitland, the live stock men and the farmers in that part of the county, that they could ill afford to be without the advertising which these annual exhibitions gave the town. So they set about reviving the fair and in August, 1905, the Nodaway Valley Agricultural Fair Association was organized. The old fair grounds which had been bought at foreclosure sale by Judge Leeper, had passed into the hands of E. F. Weller. He offered to sell the tract for $5,000 and, this offer being considered a very generous one, was promptly accepted. Successful fairs are still being held there (1916).

Mound City has never undertaken an entertainment in the form of a county or district fair, but she has her Harvest Home, which amounts to practically the same thing. It is really a county fair with the horse racing eliminated. The Harvest Home Association was organized in 1882 by the enterprising citizens of the town who desired to show their appreciation of the patronage received from the farming community by providing an annual fete to which all could be invited with the assurance that they would be well entertained.

The Harvest Home grew in popularity as the years passed and the attendance increased as the people came to know it as a clean, entertaining and instructive gathering of farmers, business and professional men and people generally. A good speaking program has always been presented and one of the strong features has always been the music. Some years as many as half a dozen bands have been employed, some of them coming from St. Joseph and other large centers.

The people of Holt County are large hearted, genial and ever ready to assist in any enterprise that tends to their future well being and the material prosperity of the county. The original settlers, practically all of whom have been called to another world, were from Virginia, Kentucky and Indiana. Later came a considerable number from Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York. The population today represents all the leading middle and western states, many of the eastern states and a goodly number who came directly from the old world. Among them are settlements of Germans and Irish, constituting a people sufficiently homogenius in habits, thoughts and modes of life, not only to cause them to be proud of their county, but to cause them to labor unitedly for their common interest and their common welfare.

CHAPTER X.

DRAINAGE OF SWAMP LANDS.—IMPORTANT RECLAMATION PROJECTS OF THE PAST AND PRESENT.—SUCCESS OF ENTERPRISES MEANS GREAT INCREASE IN PRODUCTIVE AREA.—SOME HISTORICAL FACTS.

One of the most important and interesting problems with which the people of Holt County have to deal is that of the drainage of the swamp and overflowed lands. An idea of its importance may be gained from a comparison of the area of bottom lands with those of the hills and higher ground. Holt County has about 462 square miles, of which 272 square miles are upland, leaving 180 square miles in the bottoms, of the Missouri and Nodaway Rivers, nearly all along the Missouri.

It is said that the entire length of the Missouri River has nowhere as wide a section of bottom land as is found in Holt County, from opposite Rulo, Nebr., to what is known as Blair's Lane below Mound City. The Missouri bottom is here about eleven miles wide. This soil is of the very best quality, and when not overflowed produces large and bountiful crops. The one drawback has been the overflow of the Missouri River and the several streams which flow into it.

In the early days the Missouri was much to be feared, as the June rise often inundated the entire bottom. The flood of 1881 is still remembered with a pang of sorrow by many farmers who lost much, if not all, of their personal property. But in more recent years the trouble has not come from the Missouri, but from the overflow of Holt County streams. It is against the devastation caused by these water courses that the efforts of the drainage people have been directed. While there is no way for any county to control the waters of the Missouri, there are ways of caring for the local streams so that the water will pass on into the river, causing little or no damage under ordinary weather conditions.

Numerous plans for dealing with the problem have been proposed during the last forty years. Many of them have proven effective, but others were designed only for temporary relief. Viewed in the light of the experience of several years it seems that efforts in this direction would have been more effective had the ditches been made larger when constructed and the silt, which the water brings from the uplands, removed at intervals, thereby combatting the tendency to lessen the size of the ditch, which naturally would destroy its efficiency.

The first ditch proposed was known as the Corning ditch, petitioned for by Horace Martin, John Hollenbeck, Henry Roselius, F. W. Walter, Henry Dankers and Holland Bardwell. Their

petition was filed with the county court at the August term, 1872. The court named William M. Morris, D. Van Wormer and George Kerschner as commissioners. They reported the scheme as impracticable and they were discharged. The case was re-opened, a new set of commissioners named and at the December term the work was ordered.

Joel Hester was surveyor at the time and by reason of a mistake of 10,000 yards in his estimate much litigation followed. The ditch tapped the Dankers and Walters Lakes and ran thence southwesterly to the Schulte lake. It was about a mile and a half in length. The county at that time paid its portion of the expense, amounting to about $1,000.

* * *

The second ditch proposed was known as the Sheridan Ditch, petitioned for by Patrick Fitzmaurice and sixty-five others, at the September term, 1874. Joel Hester, Jeptha Martin and J. M. Ford were appointed commissioners. It began at the north channel of the outlet of Tarkio Lake; continued northwest around the west point of Kimsey's Island, west of Fitzmaurice's; thence northwest to the quarter section corner of the south side of Section 11, Township 60, Range 39; thence northwest as far as necessary to drain that part of the county overflowed by the Penny Lake.

* * *

Then came the Forbes Ditch, which is termed a dry land ditch, to carry water to the Missouri River. This was a small surface ditch and answered the purpose for which it was made.

* * *

Later came Craig Ditches Nos. 1 and 2. Ditch No. 1 is still in good condition and carries the water from the Little Tarkio. Ditch No. 2 has passed into history, but the Tarkio Drainage district, one of the most important projects of the kind in the county is the outcome of this effort on the part of interested farmers.

* * *

Then came the digging of a private ditch, some time in the early '90's from the Little Tarkio, west of Forest City, through nearly three miles of slough, ponds and low lands, to reach an outlet in the Missouri River. The late Thomas Cottier and F. L. Zeller, afterwards county clerk, obtained the right of way for this improvement. The waterway was 100 feet wide and was dug by the interested gentlemen with the assistance of some others who contributed money or labor to the enterprise.

* * *

In 1891 a survey was made for a ditch where Squaw Creek enters the bottom above Mound City, a distance of some fourteen miles to the Missouri River below Forest City. So much opposition was shown that the project was abandoned, and the petition before the county court was withdrawn.

In 1900 the Big Tarkio Drainage District was incorporated and a partial system of drainage was adopted. There was, of course, more or less opposition, and, after much litigation, it was disincorporated. Out of this beginning, however, came, a few years later the Big Tarkio drainage scheme, which was put into effective operation.

* * *

The Squaw Creek Drainage District No. 1, the first really big project in the county, dates its legal existence from May 22, 1900, when Judge Gallatin Craig granted a decree of incorporation. The district included about 20,000 acres of land. The purpose of the ditch was to carry away the waters from Squaw Creek, Davis Creek, Cannon's Branch, Kinsey Creek and Porter's Creek. The work was commenced in February, 1905, and finished July 31, 1906. The cost of the main ditch was $80,000, for which bonds were issued bearing date of July 1, 1904. The interested land owners held their first election June 18, 1900, and selected the following named as the board of supervisors: E. A. Brown, of Bigelow; John E. Slater, of Fortescue; John S. Smith, of Mound City; A. W. Van Camp, of Napier and F. L. Zeller of Forest City. The first named was elected president and Mr. Zeller was chosen secretary, a position which he held for several succeeding years.

Like most enterprises of this kind the project had to run the gauntlet of the courts. There were objectors and they were full of legal fight. The matter went to the supreme court, which tribunal on November 26, 1902, affirmed the decision of the lower court. C. G. Landon the engineer, filed his report, containing maps, surveys and estimates, November 23, 1903. The general plan was for one main ditch from the point where Squaw Creek enters the bottom above Mound City, south and southeast to Wing Lake, passing under the railroad at that point; thence southeast and south to the Missouri River. A second main ditch was included, from Davis Creek on the range line at Mound City south and southwest intersecting Squaw Creek ditch northeast of Napier. Aside from these main ditches a number of laterals were provided for covering as much of the adjacent territory as could be brought under the general drainage system.

Promising as this enterprise seemed at the outset, experience proved that it was not adequate to the needs of the community it was intended to serve. In time the ditch filled considerably and when the floods came it did not serve its purpose. It was evident to the farmers that something would have to be done. As the ditch had been found to be of insufficient size it was thought best to enlarge it. In January, 1916, a petition was filed asking for the re-incorporation and enlargement of the territory of the Squaw Creek Drainage District, the incorporation to extend for fifty years. A plea in jurisdiction was filed

by the objectors and was sustained by Judge A. D. Burnes of the circuit court.

It then became necessary to vote on the proposition of re-incorporating and extending the boundaries of the enterprise. The election was held July 7, 1916, at Bigelow. Of the 19,553 acres in the district, 10,444 voted in favor of the change. As a result the case got into court again in October, 1916, and January 22, 1917, the court granted the re-incorporation as petitioned.

* * *

In 1904 came the proposition of organizing the Nodaway Drainage District No. 1, but it was not incorporated until the August term, 1905. J. W. Patterson was the first president and William M. Morris, secretary. The contract for the work was let in July, 1906, to John Gilligan, the price being $40,000. The ditch is about seven miles long and drains lands in Holt, Nodaway and Andrew Counties. It begins in Section 27, Township 62, Range 37 and runs south along the river. One of the purposes of this ditch was to straighten the channel of the Nodaway River.

* * *

While the work was going on in District No. 1 land owners further south organized Nodaway Drainage Ditch No. 2. The greater portion of the land in this district is in Andrew County and the court proceedings were had in Savannah. This district is about nine miles long and bonds to the amount of $21,000 were issued to pay for the work.

* * *

Mill Creek Drainage District was incorporated at the August term, 1907, of the circuit court. It starts a short distance north of Curzon and runs southeast to the Missouri River, and is four miles in length. Its cost was $40,000, including several lateral ditches. The first board of commissioners was composed of A. D. Taylor, A. J. Jimison, Peter Sipes, Philip Schlotzhauer and J. A. Williamson. Taylor was elected president and Williamson secretary. William M. Morris was the engineer in charge and the contract was let in April, 1908. The ditch is 50x40 feet and is one of the most successful drainage schemes in the county.

* * *

The Little Tarkio Drainage District No. 1 came into existence by reason of a decree of incorporation issued by Judge Trimble of Clay County, who heard the case, September 22, 1908. A change of venue had been taken from Judge Ellison of this judicial circuit and the case sent to Judge Trimble. The objectors appealed the matter to the supreme court, where the decision of the circuit court was sustained. The board of commissioners included Art Sharp, C. D. Graves, Charles Sandall, O. D. Scribner and A. D. Cunningham. They employed J. W. Krusor to make the survey which was completed in the spring of 1910. Work was begun and part of the water course had been

dug when litigation put a stop to further operations for a time. The differences were adjusted at a meeting held in the court house September 30, 1911, and the work was started again. The bonds, amounting to $45,000, which had been previously authorized, were, by the board of supervisors, ordered sold, at a meeting held at the residence of Art Sharp, October 2, 1911. The district embraces about 6,000 acres, which had been suffering from the overflow of the Little Tarkio River. The ditch is about five miles long, thirty-six feet wide and ten feet deep, with levees and laterals.

* * *

Perhaps the largest and most important drainage proposition in the county is known as the Big Tarkio Drainage District. Its purpose is to make tillable 25,000 acres of bottom land and the cost of the work, at the outset, was estimated at $150,000.

The initial steps to create the Big Tarkio Drainage District were taken at a meeting held in Craig July 7, 1909, when a number of representative owners of land in that section of country near Bigelow, Craig and Corning met for a serious discussion of the bottom land question. But two crops had been raised on this land in the previous eight years and the concensus of opinion at the meeting was that the time for action had come. Frank K. Allen was chairman. He named the following committee to investigate the matter of the consolidation of drainage districts embracing Big Tarkio territory: S. A. Sharp, A. D. Cunningham, W. J. Randall, Harmon Ohlensehlen, F. W. Walter, J. F. Bridgemon, Sam Kahn and John Hall.

This committee reported at a meeting held July 25, the same year that 13,000 acres had been pledged and it was decided to take up the question of organization at once. The following named were appointed a committee to define the territory to be included in the petition: F. W. Walter, John A. Buck, J. F. Bridgemon, W. J. Randall, Sam Kahn and W. H. Richards. The petition asking for the incorporation of the project was filed in January, 1911. There were objectors present and they secured a change of venue to Andrew County, where Judge A. D. Burnes heard the case March 5, 1910. The court issued the decree, after excluding from the district certain small tracts of land.

Then came the meeting for organization, which was held at the Center school house April 9th, 1910. Isaac Minton served in the capacity of chairman of the meeting and George W. Pointer was the secretary. The board of commissioners elected comprised: Lot Brown, John A. Buck, John E. Slater, Thomas F. Pebley, F. B. Cunningham. John E. Slater was chosen president of the board and Lot Brown, secretary-treasurer. At a meeting held in Craig April 13, 1910, the contract for the engineering was let to the Seitz-Peterman Engineering Company of St.

Joseph. The contract was let December 12, 1910, to Rogers & Black at 7 cents per cubic yard.

The Big Tarkio ditch taps the Big Tarkio River a few miles above Corning and near the Atchison County line. Its course is southwest and passes between Corning and Craig, emptying its mighty volume of water to the southwest of Craig, where old Marietta used to be located. While termed a ditch it is really a bed for the Big Tarkio River. Its length is about seven miles, with a width of 100 feet and a depth of six to sixteen feet. Immense levees approximately ten feet high are located on each side.

* * *

Among the very earliest schemes to protect the bottom lands of Holt County from overflow was known as the Forest City Levee. The initial steps were taken at the spring term of the county court in 1872. Its purpose was to protect certain lands south of Forest City from the overflow of the Missouri River. The estimated cost was $5,085 and the benefit to the county was placed at $700. Like the drainage propositions of later years, there was opposition and much litigation.

* * *

The first levy for taxes to make payment on the contract was made in 1875. Many land owners refused to pay the tax and the county collector endeavored to enforce collection. He brought suit and some of the lands were sold and brought barely enough to pay the tax and costs of the suit.

From time to time warrants had been issued which were seemingly legal tender, and were taken by William Zook and other Forest City merchants. Suit was finally brought by these warrant holders to compel the county court to levy a tax for their payment. Judge Anthony refused to issue the writ of mandamus and an appeal was taken to the supreme court, where the case was reversed and the tax was finally levied and collected.

CHAPTER XI.

CRIMES AND CRIMINALS.—TRIAL OF JOHN LAWRENCE CHARGED WITH KILLING HIS FATHER.—SIMERO TRAGEDY.—KILLING OF JOHN TAYLOR.—FIRST HANGING IN COUNTY.—FIRST LEGAL EXECUTION.—BRUTAL MURDER OF SAMUEL CROW. — MINOR CRIMES.

It is doubtful if any writer or historian likes to deal with crime and criminals. If he has the right kind of sensibilities in his makeup he shrinks from any mention of revolting and gruesome tragedies. He is mindful of the effect which such things have on the young and is half convinced that much that is printed about the shocking deeds of evil doers would be better unsaid. But the historian must make his work complete. Some of it may be unpleasant, but it is history nevertheless. No effort will be made in the following pages to record criminal events in their chronological order. Mention will be made of the more important crimes, and that will suffice.

For several years prior to 1876 Hiram Lawrence lived on a farm about three miles southeast of Craig. He came to Holt County from Indiana and had been here about twenty years. He had separated from his wife and lived alone with his son, John Lawrence, and his aged mother, who was his housekeeper. On the evening of Sunday, January 9, 1876, Hiram Lawrence left his home intending to be absent but a short time. His son, John, was away at the time. When the senior Lawrence did not return by morning Mrs. Lawrence notified the neighbors and a search was instigated.

It was known that there had been an estrangement between the father and son and suspicion soon was fastened upon the young man. He took an indifferent interest in the search for his father, and when news came of the finding of the body, instead of going to the spot John went to the house and waited there until it was brought in. He was placed under arrest after the coroner's jury had returned its verdict.

The trial of young Lawrence was one of the most sensational in the criminal annals of Holt County. The best legal talent of the county and some good lawyers from St. Joseph participated. James M. Limbird was prosecuting attorney. He was assisted by E. Van Buskirk of Oregon, and John D. Strong of St. Joseph. The defense was represented by Judge T. H. Parrish of Oregon and J. W. Stokes of Craig. The evidence was circumstantial but it was strong enough to secure a conviction. Lawrence was found guilty of murder in the first degree. Because of a flaw in the indictment—which did not state the full name of the accused—

he was granted a new trial. The verdict was the same as at the first trial. Lawrence was sentenced to be hanged, but the governor commuted the sentence to imprisonment for life. Lawrence was released from custody a few years ago and spent a few days in Holt County near the scene of the crime for which he was convicted.

* * *

John F. Simero figures prominently in the early criminal history of the county. He was a carpenter and had the reputation of being a rather reckless and dare-devil sort of fellow. He committed the double crime of wife murder and suicide February 23, 1877.

He was a Russian and his real name is said to have been Simeradski. He was married under the name of Radski. His wife explained, to the neighbors, that this change in name was necessary because her husband had been a soldier in the United States army and had deserted. When he wanted to re-enlist he changed his name to escape detection. On the day of the crime he went up town and flirted with the flowing bowl for a time. He went home and a quarrel started between Simero and his wife. Two sons who were in the house were sent away and shortly the report of a shotgun was heard. Simero had shot his wife in the face. Then he went to the stable where he reloaded the gun, and, removing his right boot, placed the muzzle to his head and pulled the trigger with his toes. His death was instant, while his wife lingered for several hours. Simero left a note, written in German, in which he said the domestic trouble between himself and wife was caused by the meddling of well intentioned friends.

* * *

John Taylor, who resided in Atchison County a short distance from the dividing line, was killed in a saloon in Corning May 19, 1880, by William Moore. Taylor was said to be quarrelsome when under the influence of rye essence. He and Moore quarreled over a game of cards and Moore was put out of the saloon by the keeper. He tried to buy a pistol but was refused. He threatened Taylor while talking with the hardware man from whom he sought to purchase the weapon. At another store he bought a knife and returned to the thirst emporium.

Taylor came out and renewed the fight. Moore stabbed him in the abdomen, inflicting a wound from which Taylor died forty-eight hours later. Moore seems to have been badly frightened when he came to a realization of what he had done. He ran into the house of a Mr. Snow, rushed excitedly upstairs into a room in which a young lady was dressing, begging her to protect him from the mob which was chasing him. She ran down stairs frightened half out of her wits. Moore was arrested and taken to jail. In June, 1881, he was convicted of murder in

the second degree and sentenced to ten years in the state prison.

* * *

James B. Inks was hung in the court house yard in Oregon, January 30, 1897, for the murder of John Patterson, a farmer who resided in the Triumph neighborhood. This was the first legal execution, and the only one to date in Holt County. Inks had accused Patterson of paying attention to Mrs. Inks, but the trial jury did not give credence to the claim. Inks and Patterson met on the streets of Mound City, May 15, 1895, and after some words had passed between them Patterson was shot. He died in a few hours. The case was appealed to the supreme court and all of the subterfuges known to the legal fraternity were brought into play to have the verdict of the lower court set aside, but without avail. The date of the execution was first set for January 3, 1896, but the appeal acted as a stay of execution. The supreme court then fixed the date for December 30, 1896, but Governor Stone granted a stay until January 30, 1897.

* * *

Matt Spellman was shot and killed on the streets of Mound City by Sam Pollock July 26, 1890. The men had disagreed over business matters. Pollock was tried in August, 1891, the result being a hung jury. At the second trial in January, 1891, Pollock was acquitted.

* * *

Lee Harriman was shot and killed in Maitland, July 20, 1894, by G. W. Moulden. A fued had existed between them for some time. They quarreled over a revolver and in the fight which followed Moulden fired with fatal results. A special term of court was held in October and Moulden was acquitted.

* * *

Dillon B. Taylor, living near Craig, died from drinking poisoned coffee March 11, 1896. An inquest was held March 17 and two days later, Gertrude, his 13-year-old daughter, was arrested charged with the crime. She waived examination and was indicted by the grand jury April 27. She was tried May 4 and the following day the jury returned a verdict of not guilty.

* * *

The first case of hanging of which there is any record in the county occurred in the road between Forest City and Mound City, July 17, 1874. James Ross had been accused of horse stealing and the evidence was so strong that the irate farmers decided not to take a chance with the exasperating delays of the law and took matters into their own hands. Ross was hung to a tree by the vigilantes. C. E. Barnes, J. O. Dick, Sol Catron, W. H. Simpkins, Frank Bridgemon, John Foster, Royal VanDusen and C. H. Groves were arrested, charged with the crime, and at the April term, 1875, their bonds were fixed at $12,000. The amount of bond required would indicate that the authorities

thought they had a good case against the men. But they seem to have changed their minds by the following August, for at that time the defendants were discharged.

* * *

Mary Donoghue died in December, 1875, as the result of a criminal operation said to have been performed by Dr. J. S. Bumps of Forbes. Bumps was arrested December 14 and sent to jail. A change of venue was taken to Atchison County in January, 1876. He was tried in May that year and convicted of manslaughter in the second degree. He was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary, and on May 8, committed suicide in the Rock Port jail by taking morphine.

* * *

Next to the Lawrence case, and equally as brutal and fiendish was the murder of Samuel Crow, living alone on a farm about six miles north of Oregon. He was 77 years old and something of a recluse. The body was found early Sunday morning, March 26, 1899, dead in bed. The head was beaten to a pulp, one arm was broken, evidently in an effort to ward off the blows of his assailant, and the lower jaw was broken.

The following day an ax handle was found in an old well marked with human blood and hair. Suspicion pointed only in one direction, and clew after clew was run down. The result was the arrest of William Miller and Thomas, Will and Dan Ferguson, May 4, 1899. The case was called for trial October 30, 1899, at which time the indictments against the three Fergusons were quashed. Miller was convicted of murder in the first degree November 4, and the date of his execution fixed for January 5, 1900. The case, like most murder cases, went to the supreme court, which tribunal, on April 10, affirmed the decision of the lower court. The second date set for Miller's execution was June 15, 1900. Judge G. W. Murphy and H. T. Alkire, attorneys for Miller petitioned Governor Stephens to commute the sentence to life imprisonment, and on June 12, the governor granted the request.

Miller went to the penitentiary and on August 4, 1909, Governor Hadley paroled him. There was always a doubt in the minds of many persons familiar with the case of the guilt of Miller and for this reason the parole was granted. Ivan Blair was prosecuting attorney at the time. He was assisted by John W. Stokes and John Kennish.

The motive for the crime was supposed to have been robbery. Crow had sold some land a short time before and it was known that he had about $1,500 in cash in the house, as he had an inbred aversion to banks and bankers. If the money was concealed about the house the murderers probably got it for it was not found by the authorities.

* * *

On Saturday evening, April 8, 1909, John W. Freeman, a carpenter, living in Craig, while on his way to the postoffice, was assassinated by being shot. Suspicion pointed to Ambrose Grounds who was arrested the same evening. In November the same year, he was found guilty and sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary. The crime was the outcome of Grounds paying attention to a daughter of Freeman, which the parent resented.

* * *

Guy Stanley was shot to death, while in bed, by Frank Vest, at the latter's home near Bigelow, December 3, 1911. According to the court records Vest seems to have been influenced by stories which his wife told him concerning Stanley. He testified that he thought his life was in danger as a result of what he had been told. Vest was indicted on the charge of murder in the first degree in January, 1912. His trial began April 8, and lasted for a week. The jury found a verdict of second-degree murder and fixed Vest's punishment at ten years in the penitentiary.

* * *

The first murder of which there is any record in the county was that of Zadoc Martin, who was shot to death with a rifle by William McKissick, April 24, 1843, in what was then Nodaway Township. McKissick was found guilty of murder in the second degree. He was prosecuted by Peter Burnett, who later figured prominently in the history of Oregon, and defended by Col. A. W. Doniphan, who afterwards became a prominent character in the Civil war. McKissick was on September 23, 1843, found guilty and given three years in the penitentiary. He secured a new trial at which he pleaded guilty to manslaughter and was fined $500 and sentenced to jail for six months. The fine was afterwards remitted and he was discharged from the jail because the place was deemed unfit for human habitation.

* * *

Jeremiah Garner was killed in the spring of 1845 by a companion while working on the roads near the Nodaway Iron Bridge. The deed was committed by a man named Stanley, who used a spade, striking Garner over the head, braining him. Stanley made good his escape.

* * *

James Kennedy was killed in Oregon, in 1862, by Andrew Burrier by being stabbed with a pocket knife. The quarrel originated over a note held by Burrier against Kennedy. The case was kept in the courts for a number of years and Burrier was finally discharged.

* * *

Lewis Garret was killed February 14, 1864. He was a Confederate soldier and was killed following a quarrel in Whig Valley, while home on a furlough. Sylvanius Grooms, Sam McClas-

key, Robert Marion, Irenaeas Nease were arrested charged with the crime. They were bound over to the grand jury, but that body failed to find an indictment and the men were released.

* * *

Sheldon Smith, living near the Woods school house, was killed during the winter of 1861-62, by unknown persons. Mike tSephenson was arrested, but there was no evidence against him and he was discharged.

* * *

George Burnett, a member of Patterson's Militia company, shot and killed a young man named Pope, at the old city hotel in the fall of 1864. This hotel occupied the corner where the Woodland now stands, and at the time of the murder was conducted by John Keeves and wife (later Mrs. Mary Bevan). Pope was evidently under the influence of liquor and was trying to force an entrance into the room of a lady guest at the hotel. The woman became alarmed and, calling for help, Burnett answered. Pope was shot during the disturbance. Burnett was acquitted.

* * *

Sarah Jane Wilson killed her husband, Thomas Wilson, in Oregon in the summer of 1865. Wilson was sick and occupied a room in the upper story of their home, which was located near the school house square. The husband and wife participated in a little diversion in the nature of a family quarrel. In the scuffle she knocked him down stairs. In falling he sustained injuries from which he died. In October, 1865, Mrs. Wilson secured a change of venue to Buchanan County, where she was convicted and sentenced to the penitentiary. She was afterwards pardoned.

* * *

An Indian was killed on the ice in the Missouri River in 1867. John C. Hinkle and John H. Notele were arrested, it appearing that the officers of the law did not appreciate such efforts at making good Indians out of bad ones. But there was no evidence against the men and the case was dismissed.

* * *

The charred bones of a human being, supposed to have been a young man named Thorpe, were found in an ash heap a short distance south of Forest City January 1, 1890. Circumstances indicated that Thomas Fee was responisble for the death of Thorpe. Fee was arrested in February and in September, the same year, he was tried and acquitted. Fee afterwards was sent to the penitentiary for forgery.

* * *

Joseph Young was killed at Corning June 14, 1884, by Robert Henderson. They were section men and in a quarrel Young was struck with a shovel. The following year Hender-

son was sent to the penitentiary for three years on a charge of murder in the third degree.

* * *

Nona Hudson was killed near the town of Forbes February 9, 1915, by his half-brother, Ernest Walker. The men, who lived with their mother, Mrs. Walker and her second husband, were at work in an orchard, with other members of the family. They went to the house and, the evidence at the trial showed, quarreled over the owneship of a typewriter. A pistol came into play and in the fight it was discharged killing Hudson almost instantly. Walker testified that he did the deed in self defense. He was tried at the May term of court the same year and acquitted.

* * *

Beecher Knapp, a farmer in the Nishnabotna neighborhood was killed on the streets of Corning August 6, 1914, by John W. Wilson, the town marshal. Knapp, with a couple of friends, are said to have been driving rather recklessly through the streets and when an effort was made to arrest them Knapp resisted. The marshal called one or two men to his assistance, but before he could get all of his forces in working order he drew a pistol and shot Knapp, the shot taking effect in the breast. Wilson was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary December 8, 1914. He was paroled two years later.

CHAPTER XII.

GOLD SEEKERS OF 1849.—EMIGRANTS FROM HOLT COUNTY.—LONG LINES OF COVERED WAGONS CONVEYED THE FORTUNE HUNTERS.—GEORGE MEYER PUBLISHED HIS EXPERIENCES IN BOOK FORM.

Holt County did not escape the siren song of the yellow metal which caught the whole of Uncle Sam's people with its seductive charms in 1848, when the report came from California that great riches were to be had there by merely picking up the particles of gold as they rolled under one's feet. The papers were replete with the most extravagant stories and nothing was talked of but the achievements of the gold diggers. The excitement was so great that the gravest and most incredulous men were smitten with the contagion and hurriedly left their homes and all that was dear to them on earth, to try the dangers, difficulties and uncertainties of gold hunting.

In the St. Joseph Gazette of October 27, 1848, the only newspaper published at that early period in this section, is found the following: "An immense bed of gold, one hundred miles in extent, has been discovered in California, on American Fork and Feather Rivers, tributaries of the Sacramento and Monterey. Mr. Colton, of the Alcalde of Monterey, states that the gold is found in the sands in grains resembling squirrel shot flattened out. Some grains weigh one ounce each. It is obtained by washing out the sand in any vessel from a tea saucer to a warming pan. A single person can gather an ounce or two per day, some even a hundred dollars worth. Two thousand whites and as many Indians are on the grounds. All the American settlements are deserted, and farming nearly suspended. The women only remain in the settlements. Sailors and captains desert their ships to go to the gold regions, and laborers refuse ten dollars a day to work on the farms. Mr. Colton says: One man who resides next door to me, gathered five hundred dollars worth in six days. He has one lump which weighs more than one ounce. A trough, such as you feed pigs in, will bring, in the gold region, fifty dollars. Put a piece of sheet iron with holes punched in it, in the bottom and it will bring a hundred. My friend, J. R., paid sixteen dollars for a little basket and his companions gave him twenty dollars for a tea pot, all to wash gold in. More than twenty-eight thousand dollars worth has been collected.

"The sailors have gone for gold from their ships and the soldiers from their camps, for the same purpose. The last vessel that left the coast was compelled to ship an entirely new crew, and pay each fifty dollars per month. No one can be hired to dig gold for less than sixteen to twenty dollars per day. Every

man prefers to work on his own hook; he may make less than the wages offered, but he has a chance of making much more. Flour is worth thirty-two dollars per barrel; fifteen pounds of Boston crackers, in tin boxes, ten dollars a box; a cotton shirt, ten dollars; boards five hundred dollars per hundred feet. A carpenter can get one hundred dollars per day. Mr. L. paid for a common cradle trough, twelve feet long by three feet wide, to wash gold earth in, one hundred and fifty dollars; less than a day's work to make it."

Day after day and month after month were the papers filled with such glowing accounts of the great riches to be had in California. The news only added fuel to the flame and instead of dying out the fever mounted higher and higher. It was too late to cross the plains that year, but thousands of people throughout the state, began their preparations for starting the following spring and among them were many from Holt County. The one great subject of discussion about the firesides and in the log cabins that winter was the gold in California. Even the most thoughtful and sober-minded found it difficult to resist the infection.

Wonderful sights were seen when this great emigration passed through—sights which, no doubt, will never be seen again in Holt County. Some of the wagons were drawn by cows; other gold hunters went on foot, and took their worldly goods in carts. The gold hunters generally left the moralities of life behind them, and were infested with a spirit of disorder and demoralization. The settlers breathed easier when they had passed.

Early in the spring of 1849 the rush began. It must have been a scene to beggar description. There was one continuous line of wagons from east to west, as far as the eye could reach, moving steadily westward, and like a cyclone, drawing into its course, on the right and left, many of those along its pathway. The gold hunters of Holt County crowded eagerly into the gaps in the wagon trains, bidding farewell to their nearest and dearest friends, many of them never to be seen on earth again. Very, very few of them ever gained anything, and the great majority lost everything, some of them losing even their lives, "their fortunes and sacred honor." The persons who really profited by the gold excitement were those who remained at home and sold the produce to the gold-crazy emigrants. The rush continued until about the first of June, 1850, when the great surging tide began to abate although belated gold seekers continued to pass through the county for some time.

A company, composed of about seventy-five men, left the town of Oregon, May 1, 1849, destined for the gold regions of California. This company was well armed and well equipped, having in its train twenty-five loaded wagons, drawn by good

and well seasoned horses. The names of the men and women comprising the party, so far as can be learned, were: Gen. James Craig, Judge R. H. Russell, Chilian Jasper, Newton Jasper, George Brown, David Elder, Abner Taylor, Dr. Westerfield, William Pinkston, William Thorp, Riley Thorp, Thomas Martin, James Martin, Ezra Martin, Frank Martin, Harry Martin (colored), George Meyer, Andrew Meyer, Mott Meyer, John Utt, Andrew Bonyer, C. Dorland, Jack Roland and wife, Richard Wedding, E. Spalding, John Spalding, Mr. Conner and family, Richard Hawk and family, R. M. Barkhurst, Washington Norman, Milton Russell, George McIntyre, John Masters, John Green, William Clark, Mr. McCloud, Mr. McDill and John Blair.

Crossing at Iowa Point, the company went to Highland, Kan., then known as the Mission, where an organization was effected, by the election of James Craig, captain and R. H. Russell, lieutenant. After reaching the North Platte Captain Craig resigned and Dr. Westerfield was chosen to fill his place. The company proceeded very leisurely, arriving at Sacramento in the month of October, 1849. At Humboldt, the route known as "Green Horn's Cut Off" was taken, which delayed the company for two or three weeks. The men were persuaded to take this route by misleading cards placed along the way by others who had been deceived and who thought to play a practical joke upon those who followed.

Judge Utt, who in later years was a prosperous citizen of White Cloud, Kans., had in the train two barrels of brandy, which was then worth twenty-five cents a drink. One of the company relates the following incident:

"One day on the plains, fifty men of the company were chosen to run a foot race—the distance, fifty yards—all to start from a certain point at the same time, and the four hindermost to treat the balance of the men in the race to Judge Utt's brandy. There was much anxiety and trepidation manifested by the men, as the amount required to pay for the brandy, at twenty-five cents a drink, would be a considerable sum. The race was run, and among the four defeated men was General Craig, who being a smaller and shorter man than almost any in the company, naturally fell to the rear."

While a few of the Holt County company made money in California, a great majority were compelled to borrow funds with which to return home. In this respect, the company fared about like other emigrants who went to the gold regions. Thousands of these men from the east, as well as many from Missouri, crossed at St. Joseph, White Cloud and other points on the Missouri River, while not a few crossed at Nebraska City. The Missouri was crossed in ferryboats but all the other streams on the route were forded or swam.

George Meyer, a member of the gold seeking party, a few years ago, published an interesting little booklet, telling of his experiences in the quest of the yellow metal. It recited many of the hardships endured and of the indifferent success which rewarded the efforts of the members of the party. Mr. Meyer died in Oregon, April 16, 1914, at the age of 87 years. He is believed to be the last of the "Forty-niners" to be called to the golden shore in another world.

CHAPTER XIII.

BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.—HOLT COUNTY ONE OF THE MOST PROSPEROUS IN THE STATE.—MANY MEN OF LARGE WEALTH WITHIN HER BORDERS.—ROSTER OF HOLT COUNTY BANKS, WITH DATE OF ORGANIZATION

The financial history of Holt County is one of which every citizen has a right to be proud. The financial affairs of the county have been handled, from the early days to the present time, by conservative, careful men, who have invariably exhibited an unswerving disposition to bring none but sound business principles into the management of the institutions with which they were connected.

So well have the affairs of the depositors in Holt County banks been managed that from the day the first bank opened its doors for business there has not been a bank failure nor a defalcation. Few, if any, counties in Missouri can equal this record.

There have been times in the financial history of the country that tried men's souls, and which have shaken more pretentious money centers. Institutions all over the country have fallen when the storms descended, but the conservative, careful management of the banks in this county has brought them through panics, like those of 1893 and 1907, without seriously disturbing their equilibrium. The total deposits in the county are more than two million dollars.

The early history of the banks of the county centers around the first institution of the kind, naturally. The pioneers in the banking business in Holt County were Levi Zook and James Scott, who established a private bank in Oregon, October, 1866. It was located in the old court house building on the ground now occupied by the VanBuskirk building.

Mr. Zook retired from the firm after three and a half years and Mr. Scott continued the business alone until June, 1871, when he sold out to Robert Montgomery & Co., a Mr. Phillips of Olney, Ill., being the company. This firm dissolved January 1, 1872, and Levi Zook again entered the business, which he continued until January, 1875, when he disposed of his interest to M. S. Norman, the first child born within the corporate limits of the town of Oregon.

The firm became Montgomery & Norman, Robert Montgomery again engaging in the business. In January, 1877, Mr. Norman retired and was succeeded by Albert Roecker, the business

being then incorporated under the name of the Montgomery & Roecker Banking Company. In June, 1896, Mr. Montgomery disposed of his stock to Charles D. Zook, son of one of the founders of the institution. The name was then changed to the Zook & Roecker Banking Company. In January, 1911, L. I. Moore became associated with the other gentlemen named in the management of the bank.

At the time Messrs. Zook & Scott established a bank in Oregon, the nearest institutions of the kind were Rock Port on the north, St. Joseph on the south, Savannah on the east and Hiawatha, Kansas, on the west. There are now seventeen banking houses in the county established in the following order:

1866—Zook & Scott, now Zook & Roecker Banking Co., Oregon.
1873—Frazer & McDonald, now Bank of Forest City, Forest City.
1877—Bilby & Heaton, now the Heaton Bank, Craig.
1880—Holt County Bank, Mound City.
1881—Farmers & Merchants' Bank, Maitland.
1884—Mound City Bank, Mound City.
1887—Consolidation of Holt County Bank and Mound City Bank, Mound City.
1889—Bank of Mound City, Mound City.
1890—Citizens' Bank, Oregon.
1893—Farmers' & Merchants' Bank, Craig.
1895—Peoples' Bank, Maitland.
1895—Peoples' Bank, Corning.
1895—Exchange Bank, Mound City.
1902—Bank of Bigelow, Bigelow.
1906—Bank of Forbes, Forbes.
1907—Bank of Corning, Corning.
1910—Home Bank, Forest City.
1914—Bank of Fortescue, Fortescue.

More extended mention of each of these financial institutions will be found in the history of the towns in which they are located.

CHAPTER XIV.

HOLT COUNTY IN THE CIVIL WAR.—LARGE NUMBER OF MILITARY ORGANIZATIONS FORMED HERE IN THE '60'S.—SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.—HOLT COUNTY NEVER FAILED TO FURNISH HER QUOTA OF MEN.—A COMPANY FOR MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE.

The military history of Holt County dates from the Civil war in 1861-65. When that titanic struggle overswept the country there was a decided division of sentiment in this county, as will be learned by reading the chapter on political developments. As in the twinkling of an eye, so to speak, those who had been loudest in their demands that the institution—as slavery was called—be allowed to flourish and the southern states permitted to secede from the Union, were changed to active, insistent defenders of the Union. Before the war had progressed very far there was almost an undivided sentiment here in favor of the federal government. This change in the minds of men has left its impress upon the people of Holt County to the present day.

The first military organization of which we find any history was Kimball's Regiment of Enrolled Missouri Militia. This was formed early in 1861 and drilled on the ground then owned by Ben Trigg, where now stands the handsome homes of Daniel Zachman, Roy Kunkel, Daniel Kunkel, Sr., Mrs. Amanda Dungan, Charles Rayhill, and Mrs. Charlotte Curtis. From this Enrolled Militia Regiment came the Fourth M. S. M. Cavalry, which was mustered in at St. Joseph April 28, 1862. George H. Hall was colonel and Alfred Waters was captain of Company F, the Holt County company. This organization participated in some of the hard fought battles of the war and saw many changes in its formation before the surrender of General Lee put an end to the struggle. William LeFevre, who went in as first lieutenant was, after several promotions, made lieutenant-colonel of the Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry Volunteers. At this time Charles W. Bowman was advanced to adjutant. Robert Ruley was selected to succeed LeFevre as lieutenant of Company F. William D. Blair was transferred from this company to the captaincy of Company B. After his death at the battle of Big Blue Albert Roecker was chosen captain of that company.

Company B, 3rd Regiment, being a detail from the 58th Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia, and made up from Holt and Atchison County men, was mustered into active service on Main street in Oregon, May 8th, 1863, by Major John L. Bittinger, of St. Joseph. At the time of its organization James S. Hart was captain of the company. William Herron of Savannah was colonel of the regiment at first; afterwards Bennett Pike of Atchi-

son County. George W. Baskins succeeded Captain Hart August 17, 1863. The company did much service in northeast Missouri. The order of muster out was dated October 9, 1863, and was received at Savannah, October 12th, where the company was disbanded the next day.

In January, 1862, Holt County completed the organization of her militia. The total enlisted and liable for duty was 1,112 men. The companies and field officers were as follows:

Field and staff—Charles W. Bowman, adjutant; Alfred Walters, quartermaster; Michael Lehmer, surgeon. Company A—George W. Baskins, captain; David Foster, lieutenant; enlisted men 99. Company B—Amos D. Stephens, captain; Esq. Carter, lieutenant; enlisted men 82. Company C—William S. Cannon, captain; Charles R. Conklin, lieutenant; enlisted men, 92. Company D—Benj. Thuma, captain; George S. Hibbard and Quincy A. Gordon, lieutenants; enlisted men, 81. Company E—Christian Schultz, captain; C. W. McCoy, lieutenant; enlisted men, 90. Company F—James T. Everett, captain; Thad. K. Slaughter and Abraham Lawrence, lieutenants; enlisted men, 93. Company G—George Wolf, captain; David T. Cummins, lieutenant; enlisted men, 83. Company H—Seth W. Beals, captain; Martin Whitmer and Francis Vories, lieutenants; enlisted men, 97. Company I—Abram S. Pierce, captain; Napoleon B. Irwin and Thomas H. Parrish, lieutenants; enlisted men, 98. Company K—William Cotton, captain; James R. Keeney and Horace Larkham, lieutenants; enlisted men, 98. Company L—Saul A. Glenn, captain; James Bradford and James H. Hodgins, lieutenants; enlisted men, 98. Company M—Thomas W. McCoy, captain; Franklin Kunkel and Conrad Grab, lieutenants; enlisted men, 98.

When the battleship Maine was blown up in Havana harbor and the United States was plunged into war with Spain, the patriotic spirit which had not had anything to quicken it, since the days of the rebellion, burst forth again. When the call came there were plenty of young men here who showed by their actions that they were willing to do and die for their country. Company B, of Mound City, formed part of the Fourth Missouri United States Volunteer Infantry, which was organized from the Fourth Missouri National Guard of Missouri, the muster into the federal service taking place at Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, May 16, 1898. Seven days later the regiment was ordered to Camp Alger, Va., from which point it was moved to Camp Meade, Pa., in August. The company and regiment left Camp Meade for Greenville, S. C., for winter quarters, November 14, 1898. The boys remained there until they were mustered out February 10, 1899.

When the company went into the service E. E. King was captain and David W. Porter first lieutenant. Both resigned

September 15, 1898. E. H. Ballard was made captain and E. L. Crider, first lieutenant. Other officers were: Second Lieutenant—W. A. Groesbeck. Sergeants—Riley L. Maxwell, Q. M., Charles C. Smith, Harry C. Gageby, Thomas Bond, Lewis Stine, Ed Ward, S. Warner. Corporals—Clifford A. Gageby, Walter L. Bradley, James A. Williams, James W. Petty, Oscar Fike, Arthur J. Denny, Ward B. Mower, Richard W. Frame, Bert S. Nipher, John A. Thrailkill. Musician—Roy L. Crider. Artificer—Denton DeO'Belt. Waggoner—Alva C. Forney.

The company did not get any nearer the field of activities in Cuba than Greenville, but that does not alter the fact that the Holt County boys were on the job, willing and ready, for the word to come from Washington to allow them to participate in any action which occasion might require. It was due to the inability of the government to furnish uniforms and guns that kept the Fourth out of the fighting; not the inefficiency of the officers and men. In fact when it came time to muster out this unit of the service the Fourth Regiment was mentioned as one of the finest bodies of men in the entire army.

In the spring of 1916, when bands of bandits and revolutionists from Mexico crossed the boundary line and committed various depredations on American soil the Washington government was provoked, after the memorable raid on Columbus, N. M., to call out the militia of the United States for patrol duty on the Mexican border. Company L., of Mound City, one of the units of the Fourth Regiment, was among the first to answer the call. This company was mustered into service in Mound City, May 13, 1916. The officers were: Captain—Ray W. Carter. First Lieutenant—Charles E. Munn. Second Lieutenant—Moss Forney. First sergeant—John W. Bickel. Quartermaster sergeant—Oscar E. Fike. Sergeants—David A. Schaeffer, Ernest K. Griffith, Clarence T. Hall. Corporals—Orville Fike, George Preston, Benjamin C. Harvey, Wesley Cook, Jack Shumard and Roy R Carter.

The company and regiment were mobilized at Nevada, Mo., from which point it was sent, after a few weeks to the border. The Fourth was stationed at Laredo, Tex., until February 28, 1917, when they were mustered out at Fort Riley, Kansas. The company arrived at home March 1 and was greeted with an appropriate welcome by the people of Mound City.

CHAPTER XV.

BENTON TOWNSHIP.—PHYSICAL FEATURES AND EARLY SETTLERS.—FIRST TRADING POINT.—MOUND CITY ORIGINALLY CALLED JACKSON'S POINT.—TOWN GOVERNMENT.—BUSINESS ENTERPRISES OF PAST AND PRESENT.

Benton Township, which was originally extended northward to the south boundary of Atchison County, was reduced to its present limits by the organization, on the 17th day of June, 1874, of Lincoln Township, which forms its entire northern boundary in a distance of eight miles. On the east it is bounded by Clay and Hickory Townships, on the south by Lewis and Bigelow Townships, and on the west by Bigelow and Union Townships. It constitutes one of the larger municipal divisions of the county, including in its area fifty entire sections.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.

Benton Township affords considerable diversity of surface. The bluff range entering the same in the northeast corner of section 21, township 62, range 39 (which section is in the northeast corner of the township), extends in a southeasterly direction through Mound City, and onward, in nearly the same course, to the northeast corner of section 20, township 61, range 38, where it bends in a southwesterly direction to the dividing line between Bigelow and Benton Townships, between section 36 of the former and section 31 of the latter. From a point at the foot of the bluff, where stands the town of Mound City, extends the wide expanse of level, bottom land, stretching westward to a distance of ten miles, nine of which run through Bigelow Township to the Missouri River. An area amounting to about sixteen square miles of the territory of Benton Township is included in this bottom. To the eastward, beyond these bluffs, extends the high, rolling prairie, diversified, in the neighborhood of the streams which vein its surface, with groves of valuable timber. In common with the general face of the county, Benton Township, both in its upland and lowland districts, is well watered.

There formerly existed in section 1, in the western part of Benton Township ,and in sections 11, 12, 13, 14 and 2, of Bigelow Township, adjoining, a body of water known as Shallow Lake. It was formed by Davis Creek, which now flows into Squaw Creek in section 1, township 61, range 39, as above stated. The water of this lake has, long since, been absorbed. There stood, many years ago, on the southwest quarter of section 18, township 61, of range 38, where was formerly a small lake, a

steam saw mill. Both the lake and mill have passed out of existence.

EARLY SETTLERS.

The first white man to make his home within the limits of what is now Benton Township was John N. Blair, originally from Indiana. He settled the farm in section 20, township 61, range 38, where he arrived April 12, 1839. In the same year came George Blair to the same locality. The Blairs on leaving Indiana, moved to Pike County, Illinois, in 1827; in 1836, to Iowa; thence back to Pike County, Illinois; and, in the spring of 1839, to the Platte Purchase settling as above stated. It is claimed that John N. Blair erected on this farm in Benton Township the first frame house built in the county. John N. Blair died on Carson River, at the foot of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, while on his way to California, in 1849. George Blair, as before stated, also died years ago.

James and Uriah Blair, sons of John N. Blair, resided on the place originally settled by their father below the present town of Mound City for many years and were recognized as representative citizens of the county.

In the fall of 1839 came, also from Indiana, Jeremiah and Daniel Baldwin, who settled in the neighborhood of the Blairs. John Hughes, from Illinois, arrived in the fall of 1839, and settled a farm in section 28, township 61, range 38, four and a half miles south and two miles east of Mound City.

William Holloway, John Holloway and Henry Holloway, from Indiana, in 1840, also settled in the same locality. In the same year, John Hughes, Sr., the father of John Hughes, above mentioned, settled the Kimsey Farm. In the spring of 1840, Judge John Kimsey came from Clay County, Missouri, and purchased the improvements of John Hughes, Jr. He continued to live on the place till 1846, when he moved to Oregon.

Judge Kimsey, who was at one time on the county bench, was the second blacksmith who worked at his trade in Holt County, and the first of his calling to locate within the present limits of Benton Township. His shop, in 1840, stood in the southeast quarter section 21, township 61, range 38, two miles east and four miles south of Mound City. He also worked at Jackson's Point. The original Kimsey Farm is in southeast quarter section 21, and southwest quarter section 22, and later was owned by Samuel Glick. It lies within one-fourth of a mile of Kimsey Creek, which derived its name from John Kimsey, a son of the judge. In 1840 John Benson settled the farm afterwards owned by Strother Moore, a noted stock dealer. This farm is three-fourths of a mile south of Mound City. He (Benson) was killed

in California, in 1844. Claiborne F. Parmer settled, in 1841, on a place later owned by Jonathan Andes. In 1840, William Mobly, a native of the State of Maine, who afterwards moved to Oregon, where he died, settled half a mile north of the site of Mound City. In the same year, settled in the neighborhood John Clinger, who subsequently moved to California; and also the widow Ellison.

A noted character, by the name of William Walker, also arrived in 1840, and made his home not a great distance from the present site of Mound City. He was popularly known as "Hog Walker," from his success in acquiring property in swine. It is narrated of this enterprising settler, who counted his hogs by the dozen, that he was in the habit of fencing in any sow with a litter of pigs he happened to find in the wild bottoms. These he took care to mark, and they, of course, became his property. He, at one time, is said to have claimed seventy dozen hogs and pigs.

About the same period, a similarly enterprising settler by the name of John Walker, located in the neighborhood. He soon achieved the distinction of "Cow Walker," a cognomen by which he was universally distinguished in the country. It is said that Cow Walker, who was always on the hunt of a stray cow, was dreaded by the herders in the bottoms who often had charge of thousands of cattle which, in those days, were wintered on the rushes which there grew luxuriantly.

Among other early settlers of the township were Jacob Mosher, who came in 1842, and died thirty years after. Andrew McCoy, from Ohio, and Washam came in 1843. Andrew Meyer, long a representative citizen of the township, came in 1843. William Gady, in the same year, made a claim adjoining the site of Mound City, but subsequently abandoned it. Henry Swimiller came in 1846.

Among the noted settlers of Benton Township, was Levi Dodge, for many years a prominent citizen of the town of Mound City. Mr. Dodge, who was a native of the State of Maine, moved thence to Ohio, in an early day, thence to Clinton County, Missouri. When he came to Holt County he settled on section 26, township 62, range 39, a farm later owned by John Shrantz.

In 1853, the settlers to the eastward of the Nodaway River, and those in the territory of Benton Township, in Holt County, were as ignorant of each other as though a sea rolled between them. The first settler to make tracks across this territory was Levi Dodge, in the summer of 1853. The course which he marked across these prairies and streams afterwards became the regular beaten road.

The farm north of Mound City, once owned by Ed. Gillis,

was settled in 1848 by William Marshall, who afterwards sold it to a man by the name of Brown.

David Worsham, about 1841, located on Davis Creek, southeast of Mound City. This stream was so named from a man by the name of Davis, who was the first settler on its banks.

JACKSON'S POINT.

In 1840 a man by the name of Thomas Ferguson settled at the mouth of the south fork of Davis Creek, where the same debouches into the north fork of that stream, on the northeast quarter of section 6, township 61, range 38. He built, at the foot of the bluff at this point, a double log cabin, in which he entertained the traveling public. Ferguson had purchased this claim from a man by the name of Davis, after whom Davis Creek was named. About 1844 or 1845 Ferguson sold the place to Andrew P. Jackson. This was, for years after, called Jackson's Point, and was, at one period, one of the widest known localities of the Platte Purchase. Jackson's Point was a stage station on the great line of coaches which, in that early day, carried the mail between St. Joseph and Council Bluffs at that period, called Cainsville. This line was originally started by a company of Mormons, who afterwards sold out to Frost, the great overland mail contractor. This was, up to the period of the building of the Kansas City, St. Joseph & Council Bluffs Railroad, the regular mail route between these two points.

The first postoffice established within the limits of what is now Benton Township was located here and called Jackson's Point Post Office. This was in a very early day (about 1844). A. P. Jackson was the first postmaster. In 1855 this post office was moved across Davis Creek, to the single store which then stood on the site of what is now Mound City. This was kept by a man by the name of Galen Crow, and the name of the post office was changed to North Point.

To return, however, to Jackson Point. Aside from the Jackson House, which was spacious, and, for that day, well kept, the Point was a noted camping place during the period of the Mormon and California emigration, as the neighborhood abounded in excellent wood and water. The road, for miles above and below, were, from day's end to day's end, white with the wagon sheets of the westward bound emigrant trains.

In 1853, Jackson sold out to Galen Crow and moved to California. Ten years after H. S. Busick became, by purchase, the owner of the property. In 1870, he sold the place to Jacob Grosbeck. The building which was long a prominent landmark near the foot of the bluff, a few hundred yards south of the limits of Mound City, was a large, well appearing double two-story

frame building with a brick rear extension. The whole was built as early as 1844. The frame portion of the house was almost entirely reconstructed by Mr. Grosbeck.

FIRST SCHOOL.

There seems to be a question as to who was the first teacher to pursue his calling in Benton Township. By some of the old settlers it is claimed that an eastern man by the name of Latty, as early as 1842, taught a school one-fourth of a mile east of the present public school building. The primitive school house was a log cabin fourteen feet square. By others it is maintained that the first school in the township was not taught until 1844, and that the original teacher was Professor John Collins, a noted instructer of youth in that early day. His school house was one and a half miles northwest of Mound City, at the foot of the bluff, on a farm first settled by the pioneer, Edward Dodge, the father of Levi Dodge, the proprietor of the once famous Pool of Siloam in Mound City.

The first to preach the gospel in Benton Township was the Rev. E. Marvin, of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He preached his first seromn in this township, at the residence of J. N. Blair, below Mound City. This was very soon after the arrival of the first settlers. Marvin was then a very young man, just starting in the ministry. He afterwards achieved a national reputation as Bishop Marvin.

Rev. Dr. G. B. Thorp, of the Hard Shell Baptist Church, was the second minister to preach within the limits of Benton Township. He was also among the earliest to practice medicine in that locality.

Perhaps no section of Holt County has enjoyed a more rapid advancement than his Benton Township. The farmers are men of intelligence and progressive spirit. Excellent and well kept roads traverse its surface in all directions, and the general character of recent farm improvements is above the average. In common with other portions of the county, excellent and well appointed school buildings appear in every district. The raising of cattle and of swine, as well as the culture of grain and fruit engage the attention of many. Edward Gillis, two and a half miles north of Mound City, was the first to introduce thoroughbred Shorthorn cattle into this township.

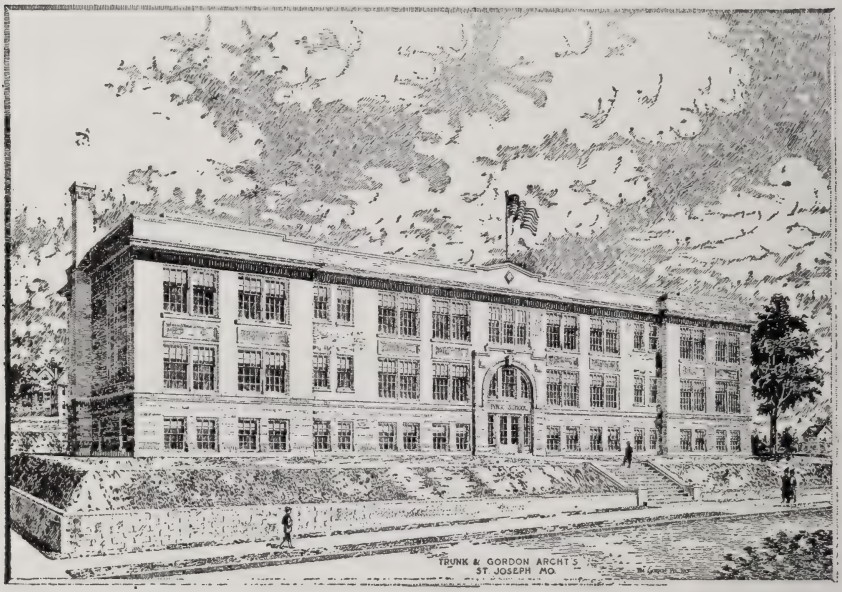
MOUND CITY.

As early as 1852 there stood on the east boundary of the present town of Mound City a log cabin in which was run a blacksmith shop by E. Porter Forbes. This was the first house

to stand on the site of the town, which was laid out five years after. Mr. Forbes, who later resided on the southeast quarter of section 19, township 62, range 38, two and a half miles north of Mound City, thus enjoys the distinction of being the original blacksmith of the place.

The town of Mound City, which is located in the southern part of section 31, township 62, range 38, and in the northern part of section 6, township 61, range 38, on the waters of Davis Creek, at the base and on the slope of the bluff range which traverses the county from northwest to southeast, is the only trading point in the township, and is an enterprising and rapidly progressing business center.

In 1855 Galen Crow put up a building in which he opened a stock of goods. This stood on what was the corner of several



HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING IN MOUND CITY

lots when the town was laid out, and occupied a portion of the lot on which stands the rear of Hamsher's Hall, in the second story of which is the present Masonic Hall, on the northeast corner of State and Main streets. Crow, who had purchased Jackson's Point, then moved the post office across the creek to his recently established store and called the post office North Point. The post office continued to be so called until April 1, 1872, when its name was changed to Mound City. Soon after starting his store at this place Galen Crow sold out to Gaines & Strickler.

On the 18th of February, 1857, the property having prev-

iously passed into the hands of William A. Jones, a merchant of Oregon, a town which was laid out on the north side of Davis Creek, embracing a portion of the present town of Mound City, was incorporated by the General Assembly under the name of Mound City. The company included William Jones, Galen Crow, Ira Peter, George E. Glass, John Burnett, B. F. Ruffner, C. J. Holly and James Foster. Galen Crow was elected president of the company, and George E. Glass secretary. On the 22d of May, 1857, the town company met for the first time and organized under their charter. About this time Gaines & Strickler closed out their business, and Galen Crow put up another store building. This was on the west side of State street, a few doors north of Main, on a lot on which once stood the furniture store of William Dean. Here, in partnership with D. Jones, he sold goods under the firm name of Crow & Jones.

At the first public sale of lots in Mound City, which occurred May 25, 1857, forty-two were sold, at prices ranging from $180, paid by F. Ruffner, for lot 1, in block 3, to $22, the price paid by George P. Terhune for lot 6, in block 42.

The first residence erected on the town site, after it was laid out, was a small frame building on State street, afterwards enlarged, and later owned and occupied by Captain W. W. Frazer. This was in 1857. In August, of the same year, was erected the first school building in the town. This was a small frame. It stood on lot 12, in block 40, on the northwest corner of Fifth and Mill streets. The building was afterwards converted into a dwelling, and later was owned and occupied as such by George Bennett, druggist. In the same fall, the town company contributed a bonus of several hundred dollars, and induced Absolom Hoover to erect, in the east part of the town site, a steam saw mill. This was the first mill put up within the present limits of Benton Township, and was operated several successive years, till it was moved to the bottom. The last meeting of the stockholders of the town of Mound City occurred May 4th, 1860.

At the period of the breaking out of the Civil war, the place did not contain more than a dozen houses, and there seemed then little prospect of its ever becoming what it is today, the commercial as well as the geographical center of Holt County.

Galen Crow, the founder of the town, was afterwards sheriff of the county and representative from the same to the state legislature. At the breaking out of the Civil war, he followed Governor Claib Jackson, as a member of the lower house, to Arkansas, and later became a resident of Austin, Texas. He was a man who ranked high in the estimation of the people, as an accurate business man and upright citizen.

The town of Mound City almost lost its existence during the

period of the Civil war, and was not revived till several years after. In 1870, when John H. Glenn, of Whig Valley, secured a controlling interest in the town, the business of the same included two small general stores, one of which was kept by A. N. Glenn and Major Dill, and the other by Hurd Brothers. There was also, at that time, a blacksmith shop in the place, kept by a man by the name of McChristian. H. Hershberger also had a harness shop. This included the entire business of the town at that period. There was no house of public entertainment in the place till 1872, when the Landsdown House, on Savannah, between Fourth and Fifth streets, was opened by Stephen Landsdown. The building was a two-story frame, with a Mansard roof. Its remote location from the business center rendered it unpopular, and the purpose for which it was designed was subsequently abandoned.

Mound City languished till the spring of 1873, when a sudden impetus seemed to be given to the enterprise of the place,



BUSINESS STREET IN MOUND CITY

and the "boom," so to speak, has been ever since steadily kept up. In that year started the first livery stable in the town, and Davis & Crannell opened the first exclusive hardware store. The style of this firm soon after became Crannell, Bates & Co. The first man who ever sold drugs in Mound City was Dr. B. Meek, a graduate of St. Louis Medical College, and the oldest established physician in the place, having been located there since 1857. He opened his drug store in 1858, and continued to sell until the breaking out of the Civil war. The first to sell lumber in the town were J. H. Glenn & Co., who commenced in 1871. R. C. Glenn & Co., put up, on State street, in 1875, a spacious two-story brick building in which they sold drugs for several years. This was the first cast-iron front put up in the county.

There was no store exclusively devoted to the sale of family groceries till Creswell & Gordon opened their house in 1881.

SECOND INCORPORATION.

At the August term of the county court, held August 11, 1873, Mound City was incorporated under the village act, and the following were appointed to constitute the town board: Dr. B. Meek, Milton Herron, Daniel H. Gillis, M. Houston and William Hoblitzell. D. H. Gillis was chosen chairman of the board, and W. A. McCoy, secretary.

The first election of April, 1875, was as follows: Amer Crannell, Adolph Albiez, George Emmerson, M. B. Moore, Henry Tipton. George Emmerson was chosen chairman.

At the election held April, 1876, the following were chosen: Henry Tipton, W. A. McCoy, A. J. Martin, James Hart and M. Houston; James Hart was elected chairman.

The election of April, 1877, resulted as follows: William Wilkinson, J. S. Hart, J. F. Davis, Henry Tipton and W. T. Hyde. William Wilkinson was chosen chairman.

The election of April, 1878, was with the following result: William Wilkinson, who was chosen chairman; Henry Tipton, W. T. Hiatt, James S. Hart, and T. Eben Cooper.

At the election of April, 1879, were chosen: William Wilkinson, cahirman; W. T. Hiatt, James S. Hart, Henry Tipton and T. Eben Cooper.

At the election of April, 1880, resulted as follows: William Wilkinson, chairman; W. T. Hiatt, H. Tipton, K. F. Rice and E. A. Welty.

The election of April, 1881, was with the following result: M. M. Smith, who was chosen chairman, W. T. Hiatt, E. A. Welty, Jacob Mumm and Lee Durham. M. M. Smith afterwards resigning, Lee Durham was elected to succeed him as president of the Town Board.

The chief executive officer seems to have changed from Chairman of the Town Board to Mayor in 1883. Those who have filled this office, with the year of their election, are: H. C. Pepper, 1883; J. S. Hart, 1884; D. W. Porter, 1890; J. S. Hart, 1892; W. E. Stubbs, 1896; P. S. Durham, 1901; J. S. Hart, 1904; W. S. Smith, 1906; W. E. Stubbs, 1908; Charles C. Smith, 1910; J. T. Dearmont, 1912; Charles Morse, 1914.

The following named have filled the office of City Clerk: A. H. Jamison, 1883; D. W. Porter, 1884; Robert M. Martin,

1889; J. M. Hasness, 1889; J. S. Hart, Jr., 1898; R. E. Decker, 1900; J. B. Dearmont, 1904; C. E. Munn, 1914; J. S. Hart, Jr., 1916

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Mound City was without a regular graded school till 1874, when a handsome two-story brick building was erected on Nebraska street on a commanding elevation overlooking the business quarter of the town, and a wide expanse of surrounding country. The structure included two rooms below and one above, besides the halls, and was completed at a cost of $4,000. In the fall of 1881, the school edifice was enlarged by a two-story front addition, ninety-three by thirty-two feet, affording five new class rooms, besides halls, cloak rooms, etc., above and below. These additions when entirely completed cost over five thousand dollars. The first board of directors of this school were W. W. Frazer, Milton Herron, George Gillis, M. Houston, Wingate King and James Johnson. The school opened in September, 1874, with Nelson Carr, Principal, assisted by Miss Mary Austin.

The board of directors at the time of remodeling the building in 1881 were G. H. Carpenter, president; W. M. Hamsher, secretary; M. M. Smith, J. B. Denny, John F. Davis and W. T. Hiatt. The number of pupils enrolled in 1881 was 279.

The building erected in 1881, while it answered every purpose at that time, did not provide sufficient educational facilities for the growth that Mound City enjoyed in later years. The population of the town kept increasing and after a time the school building was entirely inadequate. Early in 1914 plans began taking form for the erection of the present school building, which is one of the best in this part of the country and which was completed in the summer of 1915, at a cost of $50,000.

The construction of the building is fire-proof, the interior being reinforced concrete columns, girders, floor slabs, etc. The stairs and corridors are cement finished, while the class, recitation and assembly rooms have wood floors over the concrete construction. The heating and plumbing is of the most modern type with bubbling sanitary drinking fountains on each floor. Shower baths are provided in connection with the gymnasium.

The board of education at the time of the building of the latest monument to Mound City's enterprise in school matters, were: John S. Smith, president; Dr. E. M. Miller, vice-president; W. H. Weightman, secretary; George S. Criswell, treasurer; J. H. Carter and E. D. Shellenberger.

The following named have served as superintendents of public schools in Mound City: Nelson Carr, 1874; E. A. Welty, 1875; L. M. May, 1876; Samuel P. Ruley, 1877-1879; W. R.

Burton, 1879; W. F. Drake, 1880-1885; R. R. Steele, 1885-1888; W. S. Dearmont, 1888-1893; U. W. Gallagher, 1901-1906; A. C. Gwinn, 1906-1908; Byron Cosby, 1908-1910; E. B. Street, completed unfinished term 1910; J. U. Crosen, 1910 to date.

MILLS.

Reference has already been made to the original saw mill, built in the town by Hoover, in 1857. This has long been numbered with the things of the past.

The first flouring mill in Mound City, and, indeed, in Benton Township, was built in 1871, by John Handford. In 1869 he put up, on the site of this mill, a steam-power saw mill, which he operated till he substituted for the same the enterprise above referred to. Then he began on a very small scale, a single run of burrs for grinding corn, completing the capacity of the mill, which later was provided with three run of burrs, with a grinding capacity of 250 bushels of grain per day. It was known as the East Mound City Mills and is operated by steam power.

Mound City Steam Flouring Mills were built in 1876, by W. J. Hall, at a cost of about eight thousand dollars. The building was a two and a half story frame structure, fifty by thirty-six feet area. It was furnished with three run of burrs, affording a grinding capacity of three hundred bushels of wheat and corn per day.

On the 23d of February, 1878, occurred a disastrous explosion of the boiler of this mill, attended with terribly fatal results. Five men fell victims to the catastrophe. These were Caldwell, the miller; a wood-hauler by the name of Riley McWilliams, James Anderson, a farmer; James Dawson, and the engineer. No just blame was considered to attach to the engineer, or any one connected with the mill, the explosion being purely accidental. The structure of the mill, which was entirely wrecked, was rebuilt in 1878 by R. H. Dawson and Mrs. W. J. Hall, the widow of the original proprietor, who died in July, 1877.

Later the mill was owned by Isaac W. Zigler and others. Some improvements were made but the mill did not prosper. Capt. W. H. Wales and sons were the last owners. They took out the burrs and substituted a full set of rolls. The company became involved, as competition was strong, and after a short time the property was turned over to the creditors and the Wales family moved to Kentucky. The mill ceased operations in 1899. In October, 1911, the buildings were sold by O. R. King, who owned the land on which they were situated, to William Tyson, and were moved by him to his farm just east of town. The material was used in the construction of a barn. Thus passed one of the monuments of early enterprise in Mound City.

Another enterprise of this kind was styled the Mound City Mills. This mill was built during the fall of 1887 and completed in February, 1888, and began business in that month. It was the enterprise of Levi Oren, Albert and August Roecker and S. T. Lucas. J. H. C. Curtis made the plans, G. W. Hitt was the builder, J. A. Campbell of Lincoln, Nebr., put in the machinery and A. M. Bickham was employed as miller. Levi Oren was general manager and Gus Roecker was accountant.

The mill had many ups and downs and passed through several ownerships. It was practically destroyed by fire July 25, 1896, the loss being estimated at $25,000. The mill suspended operations in September, 1913, because of lack of patronage, but resumed in April, 1915, when W. R. Hill of Shambaugh, Iowa, became the owner. In October, 1916, this enterprise was bought by the Mound City Mill & Elevator Company, with a capital of $15,000, and of which W. G. Andes, was president; James E. Ward, vice-president; W. R. Hill, secretary-treasurer.

CHURCHES.

The Presbyterian Church was organized by Rev. E. B. Sherwood, May, 1872, with the following members: W. W. Frazer, Miss M. A. Frazer, Mrs. Jane Glenn, Andrew Frazer and Mrs. C. E. Strickler. Rev. M. L. Anderson was their first minister, remaining till July, 1873, when Rev. W. G. Thomas was elected pastor. He remained for a little more than a year, after which the church was without regular preaching, except for a few months, which period Mr. Carr and Mr. J. O. Pierce, licentiates, served the congregation. June, 1877, Rev. Duncan Brown took charge of the church, which then included, in all, thirteen members. The Rev. Mr. Borcher followed Rev. Brown and remained six months. Rev. Willis Weaver took charge in the summer of 1883, since which time the following named took up the work in the years given: Rev. A. W. Benson, 1885; Rev. A. M. Irwin, 1887; Rev. Fisher, 1890; Rev. A. B. Byram, 1892; Dr. J. M. Wright, 1895; Rev. A. D. Wolfe, 1898; Rev. Henry Nelson Bullard, 1902; Rev. E. Wallace Waits, 1907; Rev. W. H. Ferguson, 1910, to date. The present membership of the church is 130.

The church building is a neat gothic frame structure, with vestibule and gallery. It was built in 1874 and 1875, at a cost of $2,500. In the three years immediately preceding 1882 further improvements were added at a cost of about $600, rendering it a tasteful and comfortable house of worship. It was again remodeled and modernized in 1912. Regular services are held in this church every Sunday. Attached to this church is a ladies' missionary society, a children's missionary society, and a Sabbath school. The history os this church is remarkable, from the fact

that in the rear of and adjoining this church, was the Mound City Academy, a private institution of learning, was conducted for several years by Rev. D. Brown. It was liberally patronized, and a credit to the educational enterprise of the town, during the time Rev. Brown held the pastorate of the church.

The Christian Church in Mound City is a frame building of substantial character and fair appearance. It was erected in 1878. The organization, however, of which it is the outgrowth, existed before the Civil war. In 1881 it had a membership of between one hundred and seventy-five and two hundred. In December, 1879, David Wetzel was chosen pastor. He remained until 1882. Prof. O. C. Hill of Oregon, filled the pulpit for about six months. Then Elder Gardner of Oregon was called. He served two years. Elder Kibby was called in 1887. Two years later he was succeeded by Elder Tandy, who preached five years. Then Elder Vance served one year. Elder R. R. Preston became pastor in 1890 and remained seven years. During his ministry the church building was remodeled, an annex being built on the south. Following Elder Preston, Elder Boulton served three years. Elder Peters came in 1910. Elder Allison was called in 1906; Elder Comstock, 1907. After some minor changes in the pastorate, Elder Kuhn became the head of the church in 1914. The membership is about 400.

The original church building was dedicated on the third Sunday of February, 1881.

The society of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Mound City was organized in 1864, with a membership of five. These included David Gillis and wife, Mrs. Sarah Dodge and Mrs. Hoblitzell.

Mound City was an appointment on the Oregon circuit. Rev. Thos. Hollingsworth was preacher in charge. The church building, a neat frame structure 30x40 feet, was erected in 1879, and cost, including bell, organ and furniture, about $1,400.

A. C. Clemens was appointed pastor in March, 1867; J. K. Chamberlain, 1868; S. M. Jones, 1870; Levi Shelly, 1872; W. F. Hart, 1874; Wm. H. Bassett, 1876; W. S. Metern, 1879; I. S. Hall, 1880; L. V. Ismond, 1882; E. Sibley, 1883; Samuel Carothers, 1884; W. A. VanGundy, 1886; W. M. Sapp, 1887; J. J. Lace, 1890; E. F. A. Bittner, 1892; L. B. Wiles, 1893; A. J. Brock, 1896; J. K. Hicks, 1900; C. J. Warner, 1903; John Gillies, 1906; E. M. Dugger, 1908; J. Y. Reid, 1909; R. L. Thompson, 1910; W. R. Enyeart, 1912; J. H. Walker, 1912; Lane Douglas, 1915.

The First Baptist Church, from the best information obtainable from the early records, was organized in 1881. The pulpit was supplied in the early days by ministers from other churches. February 16, 1896, Rev. J. M. Malotte, was chosen pastor. He

was succeeded January 23, 1897 by Rev. R. M. Rhoades. Rev. Malotte returned in 1899 and the following year Rev. Rhoades again became the pastor. Rev. J. B. Simms came early in 1901, but resigned the following year. The church was without a pastor until 1903 when Rev. C. C. Merriot was chosen. Rev. R. J. Spickerman began preaching to this congregation in 1906. After a year of service he left the field and the church was inactive for several years. New interest was aroused and a reorganization effected October 2, 1916, when Rev. Roy Hostetter was installed as pastor.

NEWSPAPERS.

The first newspaper published in Mound City was the Spy, established by George Bowman, a brother of Charles W. Bowman, founder of the Sentinel at Oregon. The first issue of the Spy was dated July 24, 1874. The plant was moved to Graham by Mr. Bowman in 1875 and L. M. Gray came along and on October17, 1875, established the Mound City Globe. Ed Anibal bought the plant in July, 1876, and it suspended the following January. In June, 1877, the paper was revived by Hall & McPherson and in January the following year it became the property of C. E. Barnes. Six months later it was laid carefully away in the journalistic grave yard in which burying ground Holt County has several opinion molding enterprises.

The Mound City News was established by G. J. and J. W. Spencer in August, 1879. They sold to P. J. Spencer and J. R. Brink in July, 1881. They continued its publication until January, 1885, when John M. Hasness and Hiram Hershberger became the owners. In 1886 Ed E. King bought the Hershberger interest. In 1896 Mr. Hasness sold to W. E. John and in May, 1897, O. R. King, afterwards of the Maitland Herald, bought out Mr. John. In January, 1902, Wesley King bought O. R.'s interest, who took it back in February, 1905. On September 9, 1906, the King brothers, E. E. and O. R., sold the plant to J. C. Barrows, who conducted the paper until May, 1909, when he sold to the present owner, Howard W. Mills. In February, 1914, the News bought out the Jeffersonian, then being published by F. S. Mickey, and the name was changed to the News-Jeffersonian.

The Jeffersonian was the outgrowth of the Mound City Times, which was established in January, 1890, by Carr & Curnutt. In 1892 Carr bought the interest of his partner and associated with him in the publication W. S. Dray, now postmaster at Savannah. The following year Carr bought Dray out. In September, 1897, a syndicate composed of George Holtom, as president, and others, bought the Times plant, and also the Holt County Democrat at Oregon and the Craig Courier,

all of them newspapers of Democratic markings. This syndicate called its consolidated publication The Jeffersonian and established it at Mound City. Elder James T. Craig, of the Christian church, who had been with the Craig Courier, was installed as editor. E. S. Hayes who had been publishing the Democrat at Oregon, was made business manager. In 1889 J. L. Minton became the manager and E. S. Tyson, editor. Tyson was succeeded in December, 1900, by J. C. Liggett. A year later E. T. Fraker became the editor. He was succeeded December 25, 1902, by J. L. Minton.

The stock company idea did not prove a financial success nor was it conducive to harmony within the ranks of the owners. This is generally the case when men who have had no newspaper experience undertake to manage a publication. The result in this instance was the sale of the plant to Perry S. Mooers, who took charge in January, 1903. Mooers sold to Ed Martindale in August, 1907, who in turn sold to F. S. Mickey in January, 1908. Mickey remained on the job until the consolidation with the News in February, 1914.

The latest newspaper enterprise in Mound City is the Journal, which issued its first number September 15, 1915. William M. Carr and Woody Postal are the publishers.

POSTMASTERS.

We have already referred to the fact that Hon. Galen Crow was the first to hold the position of postmaster, on the removal, in 1855, of the office to North Point, now Mound City. His successor was Daniel Gillis. After him came W. J. Marshall, succeeded by Major H. Dill, who served till July 27, 1867, when he was succeeded by Addison N. Glenn. In 1875 Joseph V. Hinchman succeeded to the charge of the post office, and continued to discharge its duties till 1877, when he was succeeded by Wingate King. January 7, 1882, Kind died, and ten days after Addison N. Glenn was appointed his successor.

Glenn was succeeded by the following named: C. G. Jesse, 1886; A. Dunham, 1889; F. Q. Mitchell, 1894; W. W. Wehrli, 1898; J. T. Dearmont, 1915.

Up to 1868 the office was supplied with mail by stage coach. In September, that year, when the railroad was completed from St. Joseph to Council Bluffs, the mail came by star route from Petersburg, now Bigelow. William Hiatt was the mail contractor. When the Nodaway Valley Branch of the Burlington was completed through Mound City in 1880 the star router, naturally, was out of a job as the mail sacks were dropped out of the mail car on the depot platform.

Mound City's post office was placed in the presidential class

July 1, 1882, but remained as such one year. January 1, 1885, it was again made a presidential office. The first rural routes were established October 1, 1901. It became a postal savings bank November 11, 1911. The money order department was added in 1872 under the management of Postmaster A. N. Glenn.

RAILROAD FACILITIES—BUILDING BOOM.

The Nodaway Valley Branch of the Kansas City, St. Joseph and Council Bluffs Railroad, extending in a northeasterly direction from Bigelow to Burlington Junction, in Nodaway County, a distance of thirty-three miles, was completed to Mound City in the summer of 1880; and, on the 2d day of August, of the same year, a station was opened in that place, and F. Peter Rogers appointed to the charge of the same. This station, which is in the southeast part of the town, in the Davis Creek bottom, stood on a surface eight hundred and ninety-four and a half feet above the sea level.

Mound City enjoyed a building boom in the summer and fall of 1881 when not less than sixty buildings of various sizes and kinds of architecture were erected. Many of these were residences of a more expensive type, some of which remain monuments to the enterprise of the citizens of that time. Building operations were handicapped considerably by shortage in the supply of brick which necessitated the purchase of this material in St. Joseph and other markets. Because of this fact, several extensive business houses were built of pine lumber. Most of these have since been supplanted by substantial brick structures.

It was during the summer of 1881 that the opera house, which long was Mound City's pride, was built. Corsaut & Meyer, one of the enterprising firms of the town at that time were the builders. The opera house had a frontage of forty-two feet on State street, and extended eighty feet on Main street. The lower floors were occupied by business houses, and the scond floor was used as an opera house. The building was opened on the night of December 23d, 1881, with the play of Draper's Uncle Tom's Cabin. On this occasion seven hundred spectators crowded into the house and enjoyed it very much. The cost of the entire structure was about twelve thousand dollars. It was a popular place of entertainment for many years, but the day of its passing finally came. The building was sold in April, 1916, to the Carter Mercantile Co., and the playhouse now forms part of that company's business enterprise.

FLOODS AND FIRES.

Mound City seems to have a standing menace in Davis Creek which has, on several occasions, caused large property

damage by overflowing a considerable portion of the business and residential sections. As far back as 1883 it is recorded that Davis Creek caused damage by overflowing its banks, but in those days the town was not as large as it is now. The next serious overflow was May 18, 1896, when the Green Bay Lumber Company, the McNulty Livery barn and other business concerns suffered considerable loss. Sidewalks were washed away, cellars filled and the south approach of the iron bridge over Davis Creek was washed away. A few days later, June 1, came another flood of even greater proportions. It is estimated that the loss at this time was fully $10,000.

A storm in July, 1898, which was described by the newspapers at the time as a waterspout did thousands of dollars damage. It extended over considerable territory and did really more damage to nearby farmers than to residents of the town, although it was without mail for a day or two. Railroad traffic was suspended for a couple of days. There were several narrow escapes from death, several persons being reached by rescuing parties just in time to save them. In July the following year, there was a rain storm that caused the waters of Davis Creek to chase the dwellers in low places to higher ground.

On June 4, 1901, there was a rain and hail storm that did much damage. After the flood of 1899 the city had raised the levee on the south side of Davis Creek to a height that was thought to be sufficient to protect the town against further incursions from the waters of the creek. But the water on this occasion went over the levee and inundated the low places as had been done in previous years.

Floods seemed to be fashionable in 1903, as Northwest Missouri and Southern Iowa were pretty well covered by a storm which did great damage. Davis Creek maintained its reputation on this occasion, although the damage done was not as great as on previous years. Another storm which worried the oldest inhabitant when he tried to remember one as large occurred September 15, 1905.

Another flood which made history visited the town and surrounding country July 14, 1907. Business houses not on high ground lost heavily. The precipitation on this occasion was accompanied by a cyclone which damaged buildings in the country near Mound City, its violence being greatest in the vicinity of Big Lake.

Mound City seems to have suffered more severely from fires than any other town in Holt County. In several instances whole blocks have been destroyed, entailing losses which severely crippled the business of the town. But that indomitable spirit which has been responsible for the growth and development of

the town, has always come to the front and within a reasonable time after each fire the buildings destroyed have been replaced by others more handsome, more substantial and more suited to the needs of the occupants.

The first disastrous fire was on January 13, 1885. It started in Smith & Andes store on the west side of Main street, opposite the Mound City Bank. In a short time the entire block was destroyed, entailing a loss of at least $30,000.

On September 8, 1888, the second serious fire visited Mound City. It started in the Glenn building on the west side of Main street, and occupied by Miss Mary McWade as a millinery store. The loss on this and other buildings destroyed or damaged, was estimated at $15,000.

The Mound City Mills burned July 25, 1896; loss $20,000.

The frame depot which served the patrons of the railroad since the day of its building, was destroyed by fire February 9, 1917. An overheated stove is supposed to have been the cause of the removal of this landmark. The railroad company has promised that a new brick station will be built at the foot of State street.

WATER WORKS AND ELECTRIC LIGHTS.

The several disastrous fires which visited Mound City aroused the people to the fact that they had no adequate protection against the red flame demon. After the fire of 1888 the matter of city waterworks began to be discussed seriously. The need was so obvious that in 1889 it was decided to issue bonds to the amount of $14,000 for a waterworks system. Some legal defects were found in the proceedings somewhere and the bonds could not be sold. The legislature kindly amended the law and in June the following year the proposition was voted on and carried by 266 for to 184 against. The contract was at once let to W. Kiersted and the work was completed in February, 1891. There was some opposition to the enterprise at first, but once the people saw the utility of the plant no power on earth could induce them to give it up.

Electric lights came next. They are an indispensible adjunct to any down-to-date town and Mound City was one of the first in this section of the country to light her streets by electricity. The city council granted a franchise on April 10, 1895, to the Mound City Electric Light & Power Company for furnishing electric lights and power to the city and its inhabitants. The company at the time of its organization was composed of W. O. Yous, president; J. H. Punshon, secretary; J. Shellenberger, treasurer; T. W. McCoy, William Hoblitzell, J. A.

Criswell, George Holton, Ed Gillis, Thomas Tyson and J. T. Burke. It was completed in due time and on November 20, 1895, the lights were turned on. The event was celebrated with proper and fitting ceremonies.

In 1909 it was decided to enlarge and modernize the equipment of the light plant and at the same time prepare for the manufacture of ice. The company was re-organized in July that year and a new building was erected near the railroad. In it was installed the new machinery, including that necessary for the manufacture of ice. The ice plant has been operated ever since and it has proven one of the most successful industries in the town.

During the years 1913 and 1914 the service was further extended by building lines to the neighboring towns of Bigelow, Fortescue, Skidmore, Craig, Graham, Maitland, and Rulo, Nebr., which towns are now enjoying the splendid twenty-four hour service the company is able at all times to furnish.

The lighting plant was sold to the Associated Engineering Company of Denver and Colorado Springs, Colo., July 6, 1916. The company owns lighting plants in a number of other towns in this section, including those at Tarkio and Stanberry. Dr. E. M. Miller was continued as manager.

TELEPHONES.

About the year 1898 the telephone became decidedly popular throughout the country. The "craze"—as some people delighted to call it at that time—struck Mound City and in response to what seemed to be a popular demand the light company went into the telephone business. A switch board with a capacity for fifty instruments was installed. Some of the bolder, more enthusiastic ones thought the future should be provided for by making provision for one hundred phones, but this, at the time, was considered too extravagant. Incidentally it may be remarked that at the present time nearly 1,000 telephones are served through the Mound City Exchange.

The business increased to such proportions that in a few years it was considered advisable to separate it from the light plant and form a separate corporation for this purpose alone. Accordingly the Holt County Independent Telephone Company was incorporated in 1906. It has installed new machinery from time to time and the service it gives its patrons is excelled by none anywhere. Dr. E. M. Miller is president and general manager.

The Farmers' Mutual Telephone Company was organized in 1902, when W. G. Andes was chosen president and S. B.

Christian, secretary. Mr. Andes was succeeded by M. L. Norman who is still the president of the company. Following Mr. Christian the following named have served as secretary in the order given: Ed. Smith, A. W. Norman, William A. Meyer and James Fleming. Ed. Smith is treasurer and the board of directors is composed of Godfrey Marti, Ben Smith and W. A. Meyer. Mrs. Martha Sloniker is in charge of the central station. The company has 245 telephones in operation and connects with all cities and towns within a reasonable distance of Mound City. The plant represents an investment of approximately $10,000.

PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Mound City's public library was started in April, 1909, upon the occasion of securing a traveling library from the state, and soon after the Mound City Library Association was formed with the object of providing means for the support of the institution, intending eventually that it should be maintained by taxation. The presidents of the association have been as follows: J. C. Barrows, S. E. Proud, H. W. Mills, J. U. Crosen, W. H. Weightman, F. Q. Mitchell, D. W. Porter.

The first year the books were kept in Dr. E. M. Miller's office and Miss Ora Parker performed the duties of librarian. The following year the library was moved into the Commercial Club room, then located in the Groves building, and different ladies acted as librarian on days assigned to them, their services being donated to the cause. In the spring of 1914 the library was moved to the Punshon building where it occupied two rooms provided by the Community Club. Its support has been entirely from funds drawn from a large number of people and from the proceeds of entertainments. It now contains upwards of 1,500 well selected volumes.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

Mound City Lodge No. 294, A. F. & A. M. was instituted January 23, 1868, under proper dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Missouri, with D. P. Ballard, W. M.; John Schrantz, S. W.; Samuel See, J. W.; Dr. B. Meek, Treasurer; William Hoblitzell, Secretary; N. Bowning, S. D.; James Wilson, J. D.; M. D. Merritt, S. and T. John D. Vincil, Grand Master for the state granted a charter for this lodge October 15, 1868, with the above named officers. December 26, following the first election under the charter was held, with the following result: D. P. Ballard, W. M.; Henry S. Busick, S. W.; John Schrantz, J. W.; Dr. B. Meek, Treasurer; William Hoblitzell, Secretary; N. Browning, S. D.; G. M. Dodge, J. D.; Mark Strickler, S. and T. The present officers are: T. J. Bridgeman, W. M.; Clarence Porter, S. W.; Ralph Cottier, J. W.; W. H. Weightman, Treas-

urer; Delt Greenelsh, Secretary; Lee Haddon, S. D.; Joseph Morris, J. D.; George Lawson, S. and T.

The I. O. O. F. lodge in Mound City was organized May 19, 1873, by Jephtha Martin on a petition signed by the following charter members: W. A. Long, J. P. Hoover, J. V. Hoover, J. V. Hinchman, J. P. Welty, and J. W. Ogle. Mr. Long was chosen as its first Noble Grand He was made an Odd Fellow in Pennsylvania in 1858 and was one of the oldest men in the order in Holt County.

The lodge ceased working after a few years, and on March 2, 1883, its charter was revived by John M. Hasness as district deputy. It is now one of the strongest lodges in the order in this section of the state. The present officers are: Jesse C. Porter, N. G.; James O. Book, V. G.; Charles Morris, Treasurer; W. H. Hart, Recording Secretary; C. N. Smith, Financial Secretary.

Holt Camp No. 2508, Modern Woodmen of America was organized in 1890, by T. W. Burke, who was authorized to act as organizer for the head camp. The camp started with twenty members and has enjoyed a steady growth until the present time when 295 names are enrolled on its books. The officers are: George Hayes, V. C.; George W. Glick, P. C.; Frank Crouse, Adv.; W. L. Biggs, E. B.; Dr. J. C. Tracy, Clerk; Art Meek, Escort; W. E. Bammer, Watchman; Louis Potter, Sentry. The camp meets every Friday night in K. P. Hall.

Camp No. 21, Woodmen of the World, was organized June 16, 1891, and has been one of the live secret organizations of the town ever since. The officers are: Jesse Porter, C. C.; O. E. Fike, adviser; C. E. Bertram, banker; C. T. Hall, clerk; B. C. Harvey, escort; George McCoy, watchman; John Morton, sentry; C. L. Porter, past consul commander.

The Knights of Pythias have been represented in fraternal circles in Mound City for about twenty-five years. A lodge was organized in 1891 and prospered for a time, but about three years ago interest seemed to wane and the membership was inactive. In October, 1916, it was re-organized and is now doing excellent work. The officers are: R. E. Decker, C. C.; R. L. Minton, V. C.; C. G. Bloom, prelate; H. W. Mills, K. of R. & S.; D. P. Wilson, M. of W.; John Shipley, M. of A.; B. B. Smith, M. of E.; J. G. Melvin, I. G.; John Meyer, O. G.

The Brotherhood of American Yeomen also has an organization here, but does not meet regularly. The officers are: J. B. Dearmont, foreman; L. F. Lansdown, master of ceremonies; Belle Kay, overseer; Dr. B. F. Quigley, watchman.

The Royal Neighbors, Woodmen Circle, and Rebekahs are represented by active organizations.

INSURANCE COMPANY.

One of the most important enterprises in Holt County is the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company, with headquarters in Mound City, It is just what its name implies—an insurance company for farmers. It was organized November 1, 1891, and from the small beginning made at that time it has grown, under the management of the efficient gentlemen who have had charge of it, to its present proportions. The company now has $2,500,000 insurance in force. It has policies all over the county and the business shows a steady increase each year.

At the time of the organization W. C. Andes was president and J. M. Hasness secretary. Jonas Whitmer was the second president and was succeeded by George W. Glick, the present incumbent. The following named have served as secretaries following Mr. Hasness: A. Crannell, R. E. Decker, William Weightman, W. H. Weightman. In addition to President Glick and Secretary Weightman, above mentioned, the officers now are: John E. Slater, vice-president; A. W. VanCamp, treasurer; J. M. Weightman, general agent.

BANKS.

Mound City has three well managed banks, which have at all times sufficient resources for the business requirements of the town and surrounding country. Mound City is the business center of the county and her needs in this direction are not inconsiderable.

The Holt County Bank was organized February 14, 1880, with a capital stock of $20,000. The working power of this institution has since been augmented by a surplus of $20,000. At the time of organization Robert Montgomery was president; Albert Roecker, vice-president, and Hugh Montgomery, cashier.

On January 3, 1887, Hugh Montgomery became president, Robert Montgomery vice-president and John S. Smith cashier. William Hoblitzell became vice-president upon the retirement of Robert Montgomery in 1889. He was succeeded by D. W. Porter in 1897. B. P. Smith was elected assistant cashier the same year. Hugh Montgomery resigned as president in 1900 and was succeeded by John S. Smith who still holds the office. B. P. Smith became cashier at the same time, remaining in that position until 1907, when he was succeeded by B. H. Watson, the present cashier. B. P. Smith returned to the bank in 1914 in the capacity of vice-president. C. T. Hall was made assistant cashier in 1908.

The Exchange Bank, H. Thomas & Son, bankers, began business in 1895. They have one of the substantial and progressive financial institutions in the county and their success

has been in keeping with their conservative, careful methods.

From the inception of the business to the present day Henry Thomas has been president and C. E. Thomas cashier. This bank has a capital of $10,000, with a surplus of like amount.

The Bank of Mound City was organized in February, 1889. W. M. Hamsher was president at the time of organization and is still filling this position to the entire satisfaction of the patrons of the bank. J. B. Ross is cashier and is one of the best known and most successful bankers in the county. The standing of this financial institution is second to none in the county. The capital stock is $20,000, with a surplus of $10,000.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

Mound City has been modernized more rapidly than many other towns of like size. There is nothing lacking in the way of modern conveniences and everything which the present day civilization classes as necessities is to be found here. During the last few years more than $110,000 has been spent in public improvements, including the new high school building, mention of which is made under the head of schools.

The paving of State street, which was completed in 1914, at a cost of $29,000. The paving is of brick and extends from the lower end of the street at the bridge well into the residence portion of the town on the north. A sytsem of white way lights makes this street a well lighted thoroughfare at night.

A sewer system was included in the town's improvements in 1912. Nearly ten thousand dollars was spent for main sewers and the costs of the district sewers is about $12,000.

The waterworks system was extended in 1913 at a cost of $5,500 and $5,000 was spent the same year for a new reservoir.

CHAPTER XVI.

BIGELOW TOWNSHIP ONE OF THE MOST FERTILE IN THE COUNTY.—WHERE THE EARLY INHABITANTS SETTLED AND WHO THEY WERE.—TOWN OF BIGELOW AN IMPORTANT SHIPPING POINT.

Bigelow Township was reduced in size by an order of the county court dated March 22, 1871. It included, with the exception of sections 1 and 12 in the northeast corner of the same, the whole of township 61, range 39, and eighteen sections and fractional sections of township 61, range 40. It is bounded on the north by Union and Benton Townships, on the east by Benton Township; on the south by Minton Township, and on the west by the Missouri River, which separates it from the State of Nebraska. In 1894 it was again reduced by taking some territory on the southern border to form the new Township of Minton.

The entire area of Bigelow Township lies in the wide bottom which here extends on a dead level, ten miles westward from the bluffs to the Missouri River. It is traversed by numerous important streams, and interspersed with lakes and swamps. The Big Tarkio enters Bigelow Township from Union, in section 4, and flows in a southerly by westerly direction through six sections, into Minton Township, through which it runs in a westerly course somewhat over a mile, then bending northward again, flows into Tarkio swamp or marsh, in section 36, township 61, range 40. This creek, two hundred links wide in Bigelow Township, is returned in the government surveys as a navigable stream, to the south line of township 63, range 40, in what is now Union Township, and within three miles of the northern boundary of the county.

Little Tarkio enters Bigelow Township near the northwest corner of section 3, township 61, range 39, and flows in a generally southerly course, traversing eight sections of the same, and entering Lewis Township in fractional section 4, township 61, range 39. Its average width in Bigelow Township is about one hundred links.

Squaw Creek, flowing in a southwesterly course from the neighborhood of Mound City, in Benton Township, enters Bigelow Township in section 2, at its northeast corner, and flowing through the same, and a corner of section 11, enters Tarkio Creek just within the east boundary of section 10, township 61, range 39.

The lake into which the Big Tarkio flows, is probably not over one-third of a mile wide in its greatest breadth. It extends,

however ,over a considerable surface, occupying in its irregular area portions of sections 18, 19, 30 and 31 or range 40, in township 61. This body of water was once known as Higgins' Lake. It is now called Bik Lake, and abounds in fish, wild geese and ducks. On the southeast quarter of section 13, township 61, range 40, bordering on its banks, William and Harmon Higgins, brothers, from Ray and Platte Counties, Missouri, settled in November, 1841. Stephen C. Collins, for twenty years surveyor of Holt County, assisted them in putting up their house. The Iowa and Sac Indians were then numerous in the neighborhood.

EARLY SETTLERS.

Besides those above mentioned, among the earliest settlers of Bigelow Township were Joshua Kelso, constable in 1855, when it was included in Benton; Joseph Scott and his sons, William and John Scott; Daniel David, who came from Switzerland County, Indiana; Jeff. Campbell, Wade Whitney and John Stone, from Virginia; Jack Chaney, Joel Chaney and Fields Chaney, from Ray County, Missouri; John L. Morris, from Kanawah, Virginia, whose wife was a daughter of John Hinkle, who died in 1853, came from Randolph County, Virginia, to Bigelow Township in 1848. He was an uncle of J. C. Hinkle. Nelson Rodney, C. G. Hopkins and A. Galloway were early settlers. Among the earliest to locate in what is now Bigelow Township was a man by the name of Wagle, who settled just west of the present site of Bigelow, and lived there till the year 1844, when he was forced to move, in consequence of the flood of that year. Elijah Duncan and William Farmer were also among the earliest settlers of this township. Thomas and John Duncan, and James, Elijah and Andrew Farmer, sons of Wm. Farmer; Jacob, James and Alex Fitzwaters, from Franklin County, Missouri. A large number of the settlers of the western portion of Bigelow Township were from Franklin County, Missouri.

FIRST MERCANTILE ENTERPRISE.

The first merchants who sold goods in Bigelow Township were Drury T. Easley and R. J. Poindexter. They came from Franklin County, Missouri, in 1849, and settled in what is now Minton Township, just across the line from Bigelow Township. They shortly after went to California. On their return, in 1852, they started a store on the river bank, above Langdon's place, opposite Rulo, Nebraska. This was the first store ever established within the limits of what is now Bigelow Township. It was destroyed by fire in 1857. Easley & Poindexter, the pioneer merchants, enjoyed the distinction of being the first to introduce cockle burrs into Holt County. These they brought in the tails

of their horses from Franklin County, Missouri, on their first arrival in the country.

TIMBER.

Fully four-fifths of the area included within the present limits of Bigelow Township was originally heavily timbered, and the entire expanse of this territory, which is bottom land, level as a floor, was covered with a growth of rushes almost as thick as grass. The trees which towered above this growth, attained, many of them, to enormous size, and it was not unusual to find cottonwoods six feet in diameter, as well as walnut, hackberry, mulberry and other indigenous growths of corresponding dimensions.

The rushes which grew here in such vast profusion, sustained, during the winter season, thousands of cattle which, supplied with no other food, came out fat in the spring. As many as ten thousand head have been wintered on these rushes in the bottoms in one season. These were often brought from as far south as Clay and Jackson Counties.

Judge J. T. V. Thompson, of Liberty, Missouri, had, among his cattle in these rushes, twelve buffaloes. They were sent there in 1842. Long after he had removed the rest of the herd, there remained one cow buffalo which boldly attacked people whom it chanced to encounter. It was finally killed by an enthusiastic sportsman.

This bottom land was homesteaded in the early days, and a vast acreage has been cleared and placed in cultivation. The rushes which once grew here in such boundless profusion, from the action of fire and other causes, have entirely disappeared. At present much less than one-half the area of the bottom is timbered. This is included chiefly in the southern and western parts of the township. In point of fertility, there is no more excellent country on the continent, the products of this latitude growing, with slight attention, in vast profusion. John C. Hinkle, a representative farmer and reliable resident of this section, whose farm, the southwest quarter of section 7, extends to the southern limits of what is now Minton Township, raised in 1879 a crop of wheat which averaged upwards of forty-five bushels to the acre.

MILLS.

In 1861 the Hoover saw mill was moved from Mound City and set up on Big Tarkio, in the northeast quarter of section 17, township 61, range 39, one mile and a half south by west of the present town of Bigelow. In 1864 L. Hoover sold this mill

to T. W. and E. D. McCoy, who operated it till 1869, when they sold to R. P. Lewis, who ran the mill alone till the year 1870, when E. A. Brown became interested with him. Lewis & Brown continued at this point till the fall of 1876, when they moved the mill to the northwest quarter of section 7, township 61, range 39, three miles west of the town of Bigelow, where it was operated for many years. The output of this mill averaged about one million feet of lumber per year, chiefly cottonwood, elm, walnut and basswood. The receipts from sales of walnut lumber alone, sawed at this mill, in the year 1881, amounted to $5,889. With the passing of the timber the mill went out of business. Another permanent or stationary sawmill of Bigelow Township was owned by Jacob Book. In 1870 it was moved by Johnson & Chambers to the northeast quarter of section 32, township 61, range 39, on the waters of the Big Tarkio in what is now Minton Township.

Shiloh M. E. Church, South, was the first house of worship built in what is now Bigelow Township. It was a frame structure, and stood on the bank of the Missouri River, in section 23, township 61, range 40. It was a building thirty by forty feet in extent, and was erected in 1873, at a cost of about seven hundred dollars. The principal members who built this church were George H. Walker, A. I. Griffin and Robert Adkison.

Bigelow is the only trading point within the limtis of the township. It is located on the Chicago, Burlington & Quinck Railroad, in the center of section 10, township 61, range 39, thirty-eight miles from St. Joseph. The town of Bigelow took its start in November, 1868, at which period Captain H. L. Williams opened in the place the first store within the limits of the township. The business of this enterprise was conducted by W. A. Bostick till March, 1869, when H. C. Haines took charge of the same and continued to operate it till 1875, when he bought out his employer and continued the business on his own account till August, 1878, at which period he moved to Sabetha, Kansas.

In March, 1869, T. D. Frazer & Bro., opened in the place a general stock of goods. The firm continued under this name till the year 1873, when B. F. Fleming became a partner in the concern, and the business was thenceforth transacted in the firm name of Fleming & Frazer. January 1, 1882, B. F. Fleming purchased the interest of his partner and continued the business in his own name for several years. He was one of the most successful buiness men in the county.

Dr. J. P. Jackson opened in 1870 the first drug store in Bigelow. He commanded a large practice as a physician, and continued the business of his store by deputy till 1875, when he sold out and was succeeded by C. S. Armstrong. In 1877, Simpson & Chuning bought out the establishment and conducted its business till 1879, when they sold to Muir & Campbell.

In 1875, Holt Bros. started a drug store, which they sold in 1877 to James McLean. He afterwards sold to Edmund Anibal, who sold out December 29, 1881, to John C. Hinkle.

The first blacksmith to locate in the town of Bigelow was C. H. Graves, who settled there and opened his shop in the spring of 1869. Disgusted with the untoward consequences of the high water of 1881, he sold out to John L. Spohn, blacksmith and wagonmaker, and emigrated. W. E. Preston was the first wagonmaker to locate in Bigelow. He moved away in 1881.

William Perry started in 1868 the first saloon in the place. His successors were James M. Smith in 1869, John Smtih in 1875, and J. N. Westfall, 1882.

In 1879, James W. White started a confectionery store.

Robert Notley built and opened in 1869 the first hotel in the town. He remained in the business two years. His hotel was the Bigelow House, later owned and kept by I. B. Courier. The Star Hotel was built by J. L. Moffit in 1872. Several parties at different times kept the house. It was closed in 1877.

Dr. J. P. Jackson, the first physician to settle in the place, moved there in 1869. He afterwards located in Mound City and later became an active practitioner in Kansas City. Doctor Rhodes and W. S. Allen were located in the town previous to 1876.

Dr. J. H. Twyman and Dr. J. L. Minton were practicing medicine in Bigelow in 1882.

The only lawyer who ever settled in Bigelow was M. A. Duff, who located there in 1872, in the practice of his profession. He afterward moved on his farm in the township.

J. H. Isgriff was the first justice of the peace in the town. He was succeeded November, 1870, by H. C. Long, Esq.

The first postmaster of Bigelow was H. C. Haines, appointed in 1869. He was succeeded in 1870 by L. Sloan. Dr. J. P. Jackson was postmaster, who held the office till 1877, when H. Simpson received the appointment for the second time, January 1, 1882.

In 1880, John L. Chuning, an enterprising citizen of the county, put up, in the town of Bigelow, the second brick residence in the township. This was a spacious and handsome two-story building, and was completed at a cost of three thousand dollars.

Mr. Chuning, in the following year, put up the first brick business house in the township. This was also in the town of Bigelow, and was completed at a cost of five thousand dollars. The dimensions of this structure, which is also a two-story build-

ing, are twenty-six by ninety feet. In November, 1881, W. H. Bell & Co. opened, on the lower floor, a large stock of general merchandise. The upper floor was approached by an inside stairway, and used as a public hall. The balance of this floor, 26x30 feet, was divided into offices.

Bigelow, at one period, was one of the best shipping points on the line of the K. C., St. J. & C. B. railroad (now C. B. & Q. R. R.), between St. Joseph and Council Bluffs. The completion of the Nodaway Valley Branch line in 1880 across the often wet and scarcely passable bottoms extending eastward to the bluffs, transferred the bulk of this business to Mound City. It is still, however, an important trading point, commanding the patronage of the wide extent of bottom land extending westward to the Missouri River.

FIRES.

The red tongued fire demon has visited Bigelow on several occasions, leaving behind him each time losses that were hard to bear. The principal fires which the history of the town records began in 1906. August 12, that year the large store building owned by J. L. Chuning and occupied by Frank Friede, as a general store, was destroyed, the loss being about $8,000.

February 14, 1907, fire started in the Catron drug store, just south of the bank, destroying the stock owned by Mr. Catron and the building owned by Sherman Noll. The fire continued south, destroying the Hogan restaurant, Osborn's meat market, the Commercial boarding house kept by Charles Yount and a small residence. The loss was estimated at $10,000.

The most destructive fire in Bigelow was discovered about 3 o'clock a. m. Sunday morning, December 3, 1911. It looked for a time like the greater portion of the town would be burned, but prompt action on the part of the citizens prevented. The fire originated in the frame store building, located at the north end of Front street, just west of the railroad track, and owned by Henry Ideker of Corning. It was occupied by the J. P. Waters Mercantile Company, whose loss was $5,000. The building was valued at $2,500.

The building occupied by the Bank of Bigelow was destroyed as was the store of Poynter & Walker and the barber shop and residence of G. M. Larrabee. The total loss from this Sunday morning fire was estimated at $25,000. By the following December the newspapers announced that the buildings which had been burned had all been rebuilt.

SCHOOLS.

Among the early pedagogues in Bigelow was L. R. Knowles who taught a select school here in the spring of 1871.

For a number of years the town supported a frame school house in which the youthful minds were trained for the activities of their mature years. But the progress and development of the times demanded something better. The school patrons recognized that their children needed the best that could be provided in the way of educational advantages. In consequence of this a consolidated school district was formed by action of the voters at an election held May 14, 1914. The consolidated district embraces the town of Bigelow and parts of Elm Grove, Summitt, Wildrose, Kelso, and all of Cottonwood School Districts. The following named were elected directors of the consolidated district: W. M. Troxell, Frank Walker, C. S. McKee, eGorge Courier, J. M. Wilson and G. A. Conway.

The purpose of the consolidation of the several districts was, of course, to provide a high school course of study for the pupils in the district. December 29, 1914, the taxpayers authorized a bond issue of $12,000 for the erection of a high school building. It was dedicated October 8, 1915, with appropriate exercises.

BANK.

The Bank of Bigelow was organized November 22, 1901, with a capital stock of $10,000. A. W. Chuning was president when the bank was started and served until 1903, when he gave way to J. F. Bridgmon who still holds the office. John C. Hinkle has been vice-president and G. W. Poynter cashier from the day the bank began business to the present (1917). This institution has prospered under the able management of the gentlemen named. It now has a surplus of $20,000 which adds greatly to its efficiency as a banking house.

CHAPTER XVII.

CLAY TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION—PHYSICAL FEATURES AND EARLY SETTLERS—RISE AND DECADENCE OF WHIG VALLEY — FOUNDING OF ENTERPRISING TOWN OF MAITLAND—SCHOOLS, NEWSPAPERS AND OTHER ENTERPRISES — SECRET SOCIETIES AND CHURCHES.

Clay Township embraces the northeastern municipal division of Holt County. It was first organized at the June term of the Holt County Court, in the year 1854, and in the record of that date is thus described:

BOUNDARIES.

"Beginning in the middle of the main channel of the Nodaway River two miles north of where Oiler's Base Line crosses said river, thence due west parallel with said Oiler's line to the top of the dividing ridge between the waters of the Nodaway and those of the Little Tarkio; thence following said divide north to the county line between Atchison and Holt Counties, thence east with said line to the middle of the main channel of the Nodaway River, thence down the same to the point of beginning, to be designated as Clay Township."

On the organization, June 20, 1874, of Hickory Township, Clay Township was reduced to its present limits, which are bounded as follows: On the north by Atchison County; on the east by Nodaway County, from which it is separated by the Nodaway River; on the south by Hickory Township: and on the west by six miles of Liberty and three miles of Benton Township. It includes within its limits about forty-six square miles of territory.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.

The physical aspect of the country is that of a gently undulating plain diversified with elevations and depressions along the water courses, generally in the vicinity of the Nodaway.

Highley's Creek, named in honor of William Highley, heads in sections 35 and 25, township 63, range 38, and flowing in a southeasterly and easterly direction, is met in the southeast corner of section 16, township 62, range 37, by Schooler's Branch. The united streams, called on the county map Buck's Branch, flow through Whig Valley, a district of Clay Township which comprises a part of sections 8, 9, 17 and all of 16, and part of 20 and 21 in township 62, range 37.

Roland's Branch heads in the northeast part of Clay Township, in section 24, and flows in a northeasterly and southeasterly course, entering Nodaway River in the east part of section 21, township 63, range 37. The stream at this point is from fifteen to twenty links wide.

The Indian Ford, once a famous crossing on Nodaway River, extended from the northwest quarter of section 3, township 62, range 37. The river, at this point is fordable at low water.

White's Ferry was on the Nodaway near the southeast corner of section 4, township 62, range 37. S. C. Collins surveyed, in March, 1860, the state road from Forest City to Maryville, in Nodaway County, by this ferry, and found the distance from Forest City to the ferry to be nineteen miles, thirty-three and one-half chains to the middle of the Nodaway River, and the total distance from Forest City to Maryville thirty-five miles, 59.45 chains. This road runs through Whig Valley. The chain carriers in the survey of this road were Robert Gibson and Robert Hill.

King's Grove is partly in Clay Township in section 19. It derived its name from John King's father, who settled in that locality in 1849 or 1850. In the government survey of September 25, 1839, what is now known as King's Grove is designated as Roland's Grove.

EARLY SETTLERS.

The original pioneers in the northeast part of Holt County were Whigs, and being intensely devoted to the principles of that grand old party, and possessing an unbounded admiration for its gallant leader, Henry Clay, they named the locality which they settled Whig Valley, and the township Clay.

The first settler of Whig Valley was Theodore Higley, who, in the year 1846, made the first settlement on the northeast quarter of section 18, township 62, range 37. In 1848, about two years later, W. G. Higley, who had been a soldier in the Mexican war, returned, and settled near his father, Theodore. About the same time Thomas J. Evans settled on the northeast quarter of section 9, in the same congressional township, but soon afterward sold to Joseph White. This place was for many years known as "White's Ford," from a crossing on the Nodaway River at that point. About the year 1850, Charles Schooler settled on what is known as the Schooler farm, which occupies a part of the southeast quarter of section 16, township 62, range 37. About the year 1852, William McDonald and Montgomery McDonald came from Kentucky. These parties, excepting the last named, came from Indiana. From 1852 to 1860, several

farms were opened and improved. Among the other early settlers were Joseph White, John S. Peters and David Bender, and Lewis Garnett, from Kentucky. John and William King were also among the first.

As stated, the early settlers were all Whigs, and what was called Whig Valley, embraced a small portion of country bordering on the Nodaway River, not more than two miles in extent from north to south, and about the same distance from east to west. During the war the majority of old settlers left, and the present population of this district is mostly composed of descendents of settlers from Ohio.

Whig Valley was the name of the post office, and a town was laid out in the fall of 1876, and a store built. The first store in Whig Valley was established in 1870 by E. A. Burnett & Bro., and stood on section 9, of township 62, range 37. This was purchased by E. F. Weller, who, in 1876, built a store on the town site of Whig Valley. The business houses and their proprietors all moved from Whig Valley to the new town of Maitland when it was established.

MAITLAND.

It is only about a third of a century since the site of the town of Maitland was a corn field and hazel brush patch. It was in the summer of 1880 that the Nodaway Valley Branch of what was then the Kansas City, St. Joseph & Council Bluffs Railroad (now the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy), was completed up the valley of the Nodaway River. It was on May 12, 1880, that the plat of the town of Maitland was filed in the recorder's office by the Maitland Town Company, composed of railroad officials, with J. F. Barnard, at its head.

The land was bought by the company from John and Thomas Swope and the first lots were sold on June 14, 1880, to E. F. Weller. There were three of them and they were located on the southwest corner of Main and Second streets. Mr. Weller had been in business in Whig Valley, two miles south. He moved his stock, building and all to the new town of Maitland, and located on the second lot south of the corner. This lot was later occupied by the McIntyre Block. It was the second business structure within the limits of Maitland. The first business house was erected a few weeks previous by J. W. Wensch. It was used as a lumber office.

The town is located on the west bank of the Nodaway River, about twenty miles above its confluence with the Missouri. The townsite gently ascends to the west and north from the river and is sufficiently rolling to give perfect drainage to every part. Maitland is fifty-three miles by rail from St. Joseph.

The streets are laid out to conform to the cardinal points of the compass, and run at right angles to each other. They are wide, well graded and drained, nicely shaded with forest trees, which have grown since the town was founded. The street farthest east and nearest the river, running north and south, is Front; to the west of and parallel to this are First, Second, Third and Fourth streets and Maple avenue. Second street is the principal business thoroughfare. Main, another important street, passes through the center of the city from west to east and at its eastern end crosses the Nodaway River on a fine steel bridge. North of Main are Ash, Elm, Walnut and Hickory streets, while south of it is Oak street and a southwestern extension of Front street.

EARLY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES.

The following are the names and enterprises of some of the first business men to locate in Maitland: J. W. Wensch, lumber; D. C. Everhart, hotel; C. D. Messinger, hardware; W. E. Everhart, furniture; Swope & Garrett, drugs; Silvers Brothers, livery stable; J. R. Stone, harness; John Palmer, meat market; John McCoy, barber; D. Kennedy, blacksmith; Dr. T. S. Downey, physician. Other early business and professional men were: A. N. Kidd, groceries; Dougherty, Kenyon & Coberly, dry goods; Drs. R. C. Wyman, J. Sherwood and H. B. Maxwell, physicians. Charles Leach was the first railroad agent. R. I. Rea was the first lawyer to locate in the town. W. D. Galloway was the first justice of the peace.

The town was incorporated May 3, 1881. The trustees were E. F. Weller, W. A. Graham, J. E. Phillips, who was the first mayor, David Kennedy and J. W. Wensch.

By a vote of the people Maitland became a city of the fourth class March 4, 1895. The officers at the time of this reorganization were Hiram Blazer, mayor; Ed. L. Hart, city clerk; J. H. Chambers, marshal; M. Copeland, collector; James Stacy, police judge; F. M. Coyle, assessor.

The town was divided into two wards at this time, the First Ward being south of Main street and the Second Ward north of that thoroughfare.

The present city officers are: F. M. Blazer, mayor; James McHugh, city clerk and superintendent water works; W. G. Southwell, treasurer; V. O. Chambers, collector; F. M. Coyle, assessor; John Roberts, marshal; R. W. Collison, E. D. Patterson, W. G. Southwell and J. B. McHugh, members of Board of Aldermen.

NEWSPAPERS.

Less than a year after the first sale of town lots J. J. Moulton came down from Iowa and established a newspaper. It was

called The Independent and the first issue was dated March 24, 1881. It was an eight column paper of four pages and a credit to the publisher. Mr. Moulton continued the paper until March, 1883, when he sold it to W. C. Charles, who remained with its destinies until 1885.

Some time that year, along in the autumn, according to the records, C. J. Briggs began publishing the Monitor. Briggs sold out in a short time to Clyde L. Brill who owned the paper until May, 1886, when T. A. Garver became the owner, changing the name of the paper to the Holt County Herald. Uncle "Hank" Gilbert next engineered a deal whereby he secured the property for his son, H. H. Gilbert, who took charge in October, 1886. He also took in a partner, H. P. Springs. Ed. L. Hart became the owner in 1888 and about this time the name was changed to the Maitland Herald.

In 1890 B. J. Brunson joined Hart and they conducted the paper with rather indifferent success until 1892, when John H. Curnutt became the owner, selling out to Ed Kennish, who remained a journalist but a short time when he sold to Frank Robinson. The following year Kennish again bought the paper. O. M. Gilmer succeeded Kennish in June, 1903. Gilmer did well with the Herald, so well indeed that he was made postmaster. He sold the paper to Fred Williams of Stanberry in the fall of 1910. Williams disposed of the property to O. R. King, who published his first paper October 17, 1912. Mr. King was stricken with appoplexy June 17, 1914, while at work at his desk. He died the same day and the Herald has since been managed by Mrs. O. R. King, with the able assistance of her daughter, Miss Maymie King, who is giving the town a most excellent newspaper.

The newspaper, a venture not identified with the history of the Herald, but a part of the history of the town of Maitland, was established by W. M. Carr, April 27, 1899. It was destroyed by fire in December, the same year. It reappeared January 5, 1900, and ceased publication January 10, 1901.

The Eye, a bi-weekly devoted to the interests of deaf mutes, was established in April, 1899, by Oren M. Elliot. He continued its publication until 1901, when he removed the plant to Graham, purchasing the Graham Post and uniting the two plants.

SCHOOLS.

Every town has one or more institutions of which it is especially proud. Maitland's pride is in her public schools and well she may be more than pleased with her educational advantages. The system was started soon after the town came into existence and has been developed by steady and progressive steps to the

present day when it compares well with the schools of any other town of like size in the country. So successful have been the efforts of the principals and boards of education that the Maitland High School is now on the approved list of the Missouri University.

The first school in Maitland was taught by Miss Dora Turner in a building which had been erected for other purposes at the corner of Third and Ash streets.

When the town desired to erect a suitable school house the railroad company donated several lots near the central part of the business section. It was subsequently exchanged for the tract in the northern part of the town where the school was established. Bonds for the building were voted in 1883 and the structure was completed in 1884. The High School was organized in 1892.

The building of the Maitland public schools is located four blocks northwest of the business portion of the town, where it is surrounded by a well kept campus, an acre and a half in extent. The building, erected in 1884 cost about $10,000 and was two stories in height. It was modern at the time of its erection but later years demanded something better.

Bonds were voted in 1916 to the amount of $20,000 for a new and down-to-date school building, which should embody all the newest and best features necessary for satisfactory educational work. The building is three stories and basement and contains ten rooms, all well ventilated and properly heated. There is ample space for gymnasiums, class rooms and an auditorium with a seating capacity of several hundred. The contract for this building was let March 23, 1917, and upon its completion the old building was torn down.

Fred J. Kellogg was the first principal of schools in Maitland. He began in 1884 and remained until 1890, when he was succeeded by A. L. Brumbaugh who taught one year. J. W. Perry was principal from 1891 to 1894. During his term the high school was organized. J. U. Crozen was given charge of the school as principal in 1894 and the first class was graduated in 1895. The members of the class were: Mamie Goodpasture, Lillie Copeland, Minnie Kenyon, Kate Boring, Inez Elliot and Grace Nute. J. E. Davis followed J. U. Crozen as principal in 1901 and remained a year. Since then the following named have served: J. W. Fowler, 1902-1904; G. W. Reavis, 1904-1909; E. T. Ford, 1909-1911; C. D. Hogrefe, 1911-1914; F. F. McCroskey, 1914——.

The members of the first school board were J. E. Phillips, William A. Graham, David Kennedy, E. F. Weller, Dr. T. S. Downey and J. W. Wensch. Those serving at the present time

are: M. W. Brumbaugh, J. E. Weller, L. A. Meadows, A. W. Collison and Dr. I. Williams.

The school has an enrollment of 208.

CHURCHES.

Before the organization of the town of Maitland the Methodist Episcopal church had a class in Whig Valley, served by a pastor from the Graham charge. A church building was erected in Whig Valley in 1871. It was moved to Maitland in 1881. The congregation was organized into a separate class in 1899, with J. J. Lace as pastor. Since that time it has had a steady and substantial growth. Under the pastorate of Rev. C. O. Mills the parsonage was built and while Rev. C. H. John was pastor the present church building was erected and dedicated November 24, 1895. The present membership is upwards of 200. The following named have served as pastors of this church: Charles Bolson, 1879-1881; J. W. Huston, 1881-1883; W. M. Sapp, 1883-1885; J. J. Lace, 1889-1890; J. M. Bennington, 1890-1892; C. O. Mills, 1892-1893; William Hartrell, 1893-1894; T. J. Enyeart, 1894-1895; C. H. John, 1895-1897; C. E. Wood, 1899-1900; M. H. Eells, 1901-1902; S. Knupp, 1903-1905; Lane Douglas, 1905-1906; John W. Caughlin, 1906-1907; J. J. Cokely, 1908-1909; W. R. Enyeart, 1910-1911; Alva C. Brown, 1912-1915; Geo. P. Sturges, 1915—.

The Christian Church was organized in 1880. The building was formerly a union church in Graham. It was purchased, torn down and re-erected in Maitland. The new edifice was dedicated by Elder L. D. Cook in January, 1881, at which time the church was organized. The first preacher was Rev. William Gardner, and the first elders were Hiram Blazer, Fred Conz, and W. D. Calloway.

The following preachers have served here: Revs. Gardner, Cook, Waite, Kibby, Gresham, Tandy, Vance, Woodside, Jones, Davis, Dunning, Preston, Rama, Dry, Leonard, B. F. Baker, S. B. Harlan and W. H. Frame.

The present membership is about 150.

The Presbyterian Church in Maitland was organized in 1895, prior to which time christians of this faith worshipped in the Presbyterian Church in Graham or with the congregation of some other denomination in Maitland. On July 5, 1895, the Platte Presbytery appointed a committee consisting of Rev. H. A. Sawyers, Rev. John Wilson and W. W. Hamsher to organize the church. The membership at the time of organization was twenty-four. Orville Graves, John Ogle and John Crozen were elected elders. The church was incorporated under the state laws in January, 1897. The growth of this congregation has been steady, its membership now being about 150.

The ministers who have served this church are: C. P. Blaney, 1895-1896; W. E. Calwell, 1897-1903; H. P. Alexander, 1904. The following have served since Rev. Alexander: J. Russell Jones, Dr. Jere Moore, and L. P. Parker.

The United Brethren Church in Maitland was organized in 1887. At the conference of the denomination held in October, 1886, Rev. W. B. Herbert was assigned to Maitland. The charge then consisted of the Maitland U. B. Chapel, Fairview Church, Eureka school house, and Salem Church west of Burlington Junction. A church organization was perfected in 1889, the membership then being fourteen. It now has nearly 100 communicants and owns a handsome church building, valued at $3,000. A neat and substantial parsonage is also owned by the congregation. The first trustees were C. W. Nute, Horace Larkham and Jacob Harmon. The present pastor is Rev. Arthur Smith.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

Maitland Lodge No. 112, A. F. & A. M., was formerly known as Graham Lodge, having been organized in that town October 19, 1867. The lodge was moved to Maitland January 31, 1884, and used its original name until October 14, 1891, when the grand lodge changed the name to Maitland Lodge No. 112. From this lodge fifteen members afterwards withdrew to organize a lodge in Graham. The Maitland lodge owns its hall which is well furnished and equipped.

Maitland Lodge I. O. O. F. was organized November 16, 1894. From the date of its organization to the present it has steadily prospered and grown. It has elegantly furnished quarters on Second street.

One of the prosperous secret societies of the town is the Knights of Pythias. This lodge is designated by the higher ruling body as No. 183 and was organized February 5, 1891, with a membership of twenty-eight. It occupies a fine hall in the Broad Gauge Building.

The Maitland Camp of Modern Woodmen of America was organized September 22, 1867. The camp is in a flourishing condition, and has a large membership of pushing, energetic men.

The first secret society in Maitland was the A. O. U. W., which was organized in October, 1880. It is not now in active operation.

A lodge of the Fraternal Aid Association was organized June 17, 1894.

Valentine Peters Post, G. A. R., was organized in 1882, with Irving Rea as commander; F. B. Springs, adjutant; Joseph Hatfield, quartermaster sergeant.

Thornton Post, G. A. R., was mustered in at Messinger's Hall, February 6, 1883, by William Stribling, senior vice-department commander. E. Thayer was the first commander.

POSTMASTERS.

About the year 1868 C. F. Storm was appointed by his neighbors as the postmaster at Whig Valley. He carried the mail twice a week from Graham in a pillow slip and the mail boxes were in a cupboard. In 1869 his fame became known in Washington and his appointment as a real government postmaster was made by Alexander Randall, then postmaster general.

In 1870 the Bennett Brothers built the first store in Whig Valley and they were made deputy postmasters. In 1874 E. F. Weller rented the building vacated by Bennett Brothers and opened a store. He was made an assistant under Postmaster Storm. Mr. Weller became the postmaster in 1875. When he moved to Maitland in 1881 he took the postoffice with him and continued to serve the patrons of the office until succeeded by Joseph Hatfield who was appointed soon after President Garfield was elected. Hatfield continued until 1893 when, during the Cleveland administration Daniel P. Lewis was commissioned. He was succeeded by Field Spring, Henry B. Crider and O. M. Gilmer in turn. Gilmer resigned and on March 24, 1914, Lafayette Dawson was appointed to the office.

In 1884 Maitland became a money order office.

On January 1, 1900, it became a presidential office.

November 9, 1911, it became a savings depository office.

The first rural free delivery route in the county was established out of Maitland, August 1, 1901.

ELECTRIC LIGHT AND WATER WORKS

At the meeting of the City Council August 11, 1905, A. O. Markt and L. A. DeBord submitted a proposition to establish an electric light plant and furnish lights for public and commercial purposes. The council submitted the matter to the voters at a special election and it was carried by almost a unanimous vote—only twenty-two unfavorable ballots being cast. An impromptu celebration took place when the returns were announced.

Work was commenced on the plant at once and by the following December the lights were turned on. The plant was destroyed by fire June 27, 1907. The damage was repaired and the lights again turned on November 7, the same year. The plant was bought from A. O. Markt November 18, 1908, by

Theodore Mueller. He sold to N. H. Roberts, August 1, 1910. The same year R. C. Bohart became owner, who is still in charge.

After realizing for a number of years that a system of water works was a necessity to the safety and development of the town Maitland rose to this emergency as she has to all others. The plant, which was built by the Des Moines Construction Company was formally accepted June 22, 1914. This improvement cost $15,500. The plant has 15,125 feet of mains, twenty-five hydrants and seventeen cut-off valves. Water is supplied from a well and the supply is said to be almost inexhaustable. The tank has a capacity of 50,000 gallons and gives a pressure of fifty pounds on the mains. This is considered sufficient for the needed fire protection.

BANKS

The people of Maitland have a right to be proud of the banking institutions which serve their needs. Nowhere can be found more substantial, well managed and prosperous banks than the two which are doing business in Maitland. Depositors know their funds are invested to the best advantage and every transaction adds to their confidence in the men at the head of these institutions. Borrowers are given every consideration and accommodation indicated by sound, careful business methods. The banks of Maitland have ever been found ready and willing to do their full share in every instance where the growth and development of the town was in question.

The Farmers' Bank opened for business in December, 1881, about a year after the first sale of lots in the town. E. F. Weller was the president then and he is still on the job. For thirty-five years he has been in the banking business in the building which now quarters this institution and which was built especially for its use. Mr. Weller has a long, honorable career to his credit.

The capital was $10,000 at the time of organization and has since been doubled. The bank has $14,000 undivided profits which adds materially to its working capital.

Charles T. Donovan was the first cashier. He was succeeded by J. E. Weller in 1895. John Ross became cashier in 1898 and Joseph Hatfield in 1901. J. E. Weller succeeded him in 1902. Charles D. Weller took the office in 1907. J. E. Weller returned to the bank in 1910 and has been cashier since that date. Harry Crider, the assistant cashier assumed the duties of this office in 1910.

Hiram Blazer was the first vice-president. He was succeeded by J. D. Goodpasture, William Leeper, Hiram Blazer and Frank Blazer, who have held the office in the order named.

The Peoples' Bank began business in December, 1895. It was capitalized at that time for $20,000, and although there has been no formal increase since so far as official records go, its present capital and surplus amounts to $52,000.

D. A. Gelvin, one of the moving spirits in the formation of this banking institution was president at the time of the organization. He has held the office continuously to the present time (1917). P. L. Bohart has been vice-president since the day the bank began business.

John Fields was the first cashier. He served until October, 1899, when he was succeeded by M. C. Brumbaugh, the present cashier. Charles Brown was made assistant cashier when the bank began business. He was followed by Charles Geyer in 1897, who served until 1900 when M. W. Brumbaugh, the present assistant cashier, took up the duties of this office.

Of the original board of directors the following named are still living: D. A. Gelvin, P. L. Bohart, Elijah Rowlett and F. C. Meadows.

TELEPHONE COMPANY.

Maitland is served by one telephone exchange, in which respect she is more fortunate than those towns which suffer the annoyance of a dual service. The Farmers' Mutual Telephone Company had its inception at a meeting held in Maitland Septemper 11, 1902, at which the farmers in the country nearby discussed with the business men of Maitland the business details of the proposition. The company was formally organized January 13, 1903, when the following officers were elected: Elijah Rowlett, president; W. H. Huiatt, vice-president; J. H. Fickes, secretary; Frank Kneale, treasurer. The directors were W. H. Smith, F. M. Blazer and William Hodgin. The capital invested at the outset was $3,500 and the number of telephones 113.

The company was incorporated March 1, 1913, with the following named officers: A. B. Crider, president; Lum Patterson, vice-president; J. H. Fickes, secretary; W. H. DeBord, treasurer. The directors were: A. B. Crider, W. H. Hodgin, Lum Patterson, W. S. Bond, J. H. Fickes. The capital stock was raised to $7,500 and the number of telephones to 325. The present officers are I. A. Iddings, president; Ed Kneale, vice-president; J. H. Fickes, secretary; W. H. DeBord, treasurer.

CHAPTER XVIII.

FOREST TOWNSHIP ONE OF THE MOST INTERESTING IN THE COUNTY—FIRST SETTLERS AND THEIR ACTIVITIES—THE BANKS' SPRING—MANX MEN—FOREST CITY ONCE A STEAMBOAT LANDING—NOW AN IMPORTANT COMMERCIAL CENTER — ENTERPRISES AND IMPROVEMENTS OF LATER YEARS.

For many years Lewis Township comprised, in a general way, the territory extending to a point two miles east of Oregon westward to the Missouri River, with a corner two miles in extent taken out in the southeast corner which belonged to Forbes Township. For voting purposes the township was divided into two precincts known as East Lewis and West Lewis. But when Minton Township was formed in June, 1894, by taking off a comparatively small portion of Lewis Township, it occurred to a number of residents of the town of Forest City that it would be proper and right to divide Lewis Township and a petition to that effect was filed with the county court soon after the formation of Minton Township.

Acting on this petition the court, on August 8, 1894, made the formal order dividing Lewis Township. That portion which had been known as West Lewis voting precinct was decreed to be Forest Township, the boundaries of which were defined as follows:

"Commencing at the west line of Holt County, Missouri, at the Missouri River where the same joins the northwest fractional section 29, township 60, of range 39; thence east about three miles to the northwest corner of section 26, township 60, of range 39; thence north about four and one-fourth miles to the northwest corner of fractional section 2, township 60, of range 39; thence east about four miles to the northwest corner of fractional section 4, township 60, of range 38; thence south about nine miles to the south line of Holt County in the Missouri River; thence up the said Missouri River along the west line of said Holt County to the place of beginning."

PHYSICAL FEATURES.

The greater portion of Forest Township consists in rich, productive bottom land. Much of it was at one time considered of little value, on account of the overflow of the Missouri River, which left the soil in a condition unfit for farming. In recent years, however, a drainage system has been installed in a portion of the township, which has put under cultivation hundreds of acres of land heretofore considered of little agricultural value.

There is no area of corresponding size anywhere in the world that can boast of greater fertility than that along the Missouri River, when the waters of that stream will leave the land to the agriculturists. The development in this particular, during the last few years, has been wonderful; where, comparatively a short time ago, blue stem grass and willows covered the ground, there may now be seen rich growing fields of corn and alfalfa. The owners have not only improved their ground from the tillable standpoint, but have also established handsome homes, serviceable barns and outbuildings, and have adopted many other improvements which makes living on the farm a pleasure.

EARLY SETTLERS.

Much of the history of Forest Township, which has to do with the early settlers, is so intermingled with Lewis Township, that reference may properly be made here to that political subdivision. Many of the early settlers in the county were very near the line that separates these two townships.

The only town in Forest Township is Forest City, which for many years has been one of the most important shipping points on the main line of the C. B. & Q. Railroad between St. Joseph and Omaha. It is connected with Oregon, the countyseat by interurban road, a complete history of which will be found in the chapter devoted to railroads. For many years, practically all the merchandise sold in the southern part of the county, was distributed from Forest City. Before the railroad was built, the town was an important point for Missouri River steamboats.

The Little Tarkio originally entered Forest Township in section 4, and running in a southeasterly direction, through what was known in the original United States surveys, as Impassable Lake, and subsequently Tarkio Lake, an extensive swamp lying to the northwest of Forest City, entered the former bed of the Missouri River, just above that town, and flowed through that channel, debouched into the bed of the river about two miles below the town of Forbes. Some years later by the shifting of the channel of the Missouri River the mouth of the Little Tarkio was moved to a point about a mile north of Forest City. This lake or swamp, according to a survey made in May, 1874, by Stephen C. Collins, who, for twenty years in the early history of the county, was its surveyor, and who was known for the unwavering accuracy of his work, contained three thousand one hundred and thirteen acres and a fraction. Thomas W. Collins, an attorney in St. Joseph, was employed to secure to the County of Holt a grant of this land, which he effected through the agency of the Hon. I. C. Parker, at that time representative in Congress from this district, and later United States District

Judge in Arkansas. The patent, granting this swamp, was presented by said T. W. Collins to the county court and filed in the clerk's office of that body on the 20th day of July, 1874. In obedience to petition the county court made an appropriation for draining this marsh, and a contract was made in September, 1874, to W. S. Cannon and H. Robinson, for cutting a ditch to serve that purpose. The drainage, however, was said to be imperfect, and the locality in consequence, unhealthful, and otherwise undesirable. The water of the Little Tarkio, where the same enters the Missouri River at the point above mentioned, contributes to form what was formerly designated as Solomon's Island.

The latter stream, at one period, flowed in a southeasterly direction below its present mouth, through the southern parts of Lewis and Forbes Townships, entering the Missouri River near the southeastern corner of the county.

The first settler on the shore of Impassable Lake was Isaac Fillmore, a cousin of President Millard Fillmore. He came from New York in 1841, and settled on the east side of the lake. The Widow May, George Wood, and others were living on its south side in the fall of 1842. Samuel, Amos and Moses Wilds settled west of the lake in the winter of 1842. These people are long since gone.

Kimsey Creek enters Forest Township in fractional section 4, township 60, range 38, and flowing in a southwesterly direction, enters the Little Tarkio about a mile and a half above Forest City.

Since the first settlement of the county, in 1838, various changes have occurred in the contour of the territory included in what is now Forest Township. These changes, confined to the western and southern boundaries, have been the result of the ever shifting course of the Missouri River, which is rarely known to flow for any extended period of time in the same channel.

Immediately following the great overflow of 1844, began to appear the growth of cottonwood, which, with a later intermingling of other timber, now, to a considerable extent, where the same has not been cleared, overspreads these bottoms, which were formerly prairie, and which may be said to be fathomless in the depths of their exhaustless fertility.

WILLIAM BANKS.

Among the pioneers of Holt County was William Banks, who resided until his death a few years ago on a fine farm in Forest Township about a mile and a half south of Forest City. Mr. Banks was the owner of several valuable farms in the county.

He was born in the Isle of Man, October 21, 1811. When a boy of fifteen years of age he left his native home, went to Liverpool and shipped as a three-year apprentice on a westward bound vessel. His compensation was seven pounds sterling, per annum (less than $34) and out of this he was required to clothe himself. He made a seven months' voyage to Mobile and back to Liverpool, when he deserted. He subsequently shipped on board a vessel bound for St. Andrews, and thence went to Baltimore.

After various fortunes he found himself, in 1830, in New Orleans, and hired as a deckhand on a steamboat. In this capacity he reached St. Louis, Missouri, about the close of the year 1831. In the spring of 1832 he shipped as a deckhand on the steamboat Yellowstone, commanded by Captain Bennett. This boat was in the service of the American Fur Company, and was the first steamer to ascend the Missouri River as far as the mountains. He relates that, on this trip, he cut ash wood for the boat on a piece of land three and a half miles below the site of the present town of Forest City, on which he afterwards entered. He claimed to be, next to Lewis and Clark, who came up the river in 1803, the first white man who ever trod the soil of what is now Holt County. He remained three years in the service of the American Fur Company.

When he first shipped as a deckhand his compensation was fifteen dollars a month. In the service of this company he soon rose to be mate of the steamboat Howard, with a salary of one hundred dollars per month. He had continued uninterruptedly to follow the river from New Orleans to the mouth of the Yellowstone for a number of years, and in his day enjoyed the reputation of knowing the Missouri better than any man who at that time followed it.

Determining, at length, to embark in a less laborious calling than the business of steamboating, in which he had been so long engaged, he concluded to try merchandising. Accordingly, in partnership with John C. McIntosh, clerk of the Thames, he chartered that steamboat, loaded her with cypress shingles, and other material for erecting a house, and a seven thousand dollar stock of merchandise. With this cargo he landed, on the 9th day of August, 1841, on the spot below Forest City, above referred to as having so forcibly attracted his attention on his first trip up the then almost unknown stream.

This was on a quarter section of land, on which a mulatto, by the name of Jeffrey Dorway, had squatted. From this squatter he purchased his pre-emeption, paying him therefor the sum of six hundred dollars, one-half in merchandise and the other half in cash. Mr. Banks, in mentioning this Jeffrey Dorway, speaks of him as a person of unusual intelligence for his class,

as well as a man of incorruptible integrity. He spoke fluently English, French, and five Indian languages, and was interpreter between the whites and Indians. He had been at one time a slave of Joseph Robidoux, the founder of St. Joseph, but was at the period of his settling, in what was afterwards Holt County, a free man. It appears that "Dorway" was a corruption of his original name, Dorine. The spot where Banks settled was called, from this man, Jeffrey's Point. It was a projection included in southwest quarter section 15, township 59, range 38.

Banks and McIntosh, on taking possession of the claim, named the spot Iowa Point. Here they proceeded, immediately after landing, to erect their store house. It was a building of hewed logs, thirty-six by twenty feet in dimensions, and one and a half stories high. This they stocked with the goods which they had brought with them and commenced business. Theirs was the second mercantile enterprise started in the county. At the end of fourteen or fifteen months the venture proved a failure, and Mr. Banks was a heavy loser by the result.

In the summer of 1844 he started, at Iowa Point, Missouri, where his old store and warehouse stood, a flat boat ferry across the Missouri River. Except the people at the Indian Agency and the Mission there were, at that time, no white people residing west of the Missouri River, and this was the only ferry on its waters above Robidoux Landing. His enterprise was regarded as a wild experiment, but it was ultimately crowned with success. In the summer of 1844, just as he had completed his boat, a command of three hundred United States cavalry appeared on the river bank. For transporting these across, which undertaking he effected in the course of half a day, he was paid the sum of fifty dollars. This was the first money received by him for ferriage, and with it he entered forty acres of land.

Iowa Point was for many succeeding years a noted crossing on the Missouri River, and William Banks long enjoyed the reputation of being the most expert ferryman on its waters. During the great California emigration Banks' Ferry, though propelled by hand power, did an immense business, frequently paying in a single day over one hundred and forty-four dollars clear of all expenses. Banks continued to operate the ferry till 1856, when he sold it. He also, for many years, cut and supplied wood to the boats passing up and down the river. The original quarter on which he settled in 1841, when he first purchased the preemption of Jeffrey Dorway, he entered in 1844. Nearly, if not all, the original tract has long since been engulfed in the encroachments of the Missouri, and with it, of course the original Iowa Point.

By permission of William Banks, the point in Kansas opposite the original Iowa Point, Missouri, was so named by John Pemberton and Harvey Foreman.

Mr. Banks' landed possessions in Holt County at one time extended from a point below the present site of Forest City, two and a half miles along the bank of the Missouri River, and included a tract of eight hundred and forty acres.

BANKS' SPRING.

On the tract which Banks finally selected for his home, about a mile and a half southeast of Forest City, and about the same distance southwest of Oregon, is a remarkable fountain, known as Banks' Spring. The water here gushes from the base of the rocky bluff in a stream of considerable volume and remarkable purity, flowing in a westerly direction. This stream for many years supplied a tank of the Kansas City, St. Joseph and Council Bluffs Railroad, which runs diagonally through the southwest corner of his quarter section, number 4, of township 59, range 38, Forest Township, about a quarter of a mile from the residence and the source of the spring. This residence is strikingly peculiar. It is a small, two story structure, and would be scarcely worthy of mention, but from the enormous thickness of its walls, which are of limestone, two feet through. Mr. Banks was the owner of several hundred acres of valuable farming land in the bottom and uplands. He was never married.

MANX MEN.

Mr. Banks was not the only Manx Man in the county. In the spring of 1847, Thomas Cottier arrived from the Isle of Man, and settled in Forest Township, on the southeast quarter of section 9, township 60, range 38, on the waters of Kimsey Creek. This is now one of the best farms in the county. He planted an apple orchard, of twelve acres (six hundred trees), besides a peach orchard of as many trees; also pear trees and a vineyard. Through the influence of Mr. Cottier, more than five hundred people have been induced to leave the Isle of Man and settle in Holt County, besides those who, on arriving in the United States, selected Kansas for their new homes.

CAMP MEETINGS.

In the early days of the county's history, when the population was scattered and neighborhoods were widely separated, camp meetings were a recognized necessity. One of the earliest, if not the first, was held by the Methodists, in the summer of 1844, up a hollow leading from the old mill in the north part of Forest City. Its site was a farm at that time, owned by Thomas Edwards, later the property of Mr. Smith. The attendance at this meeting, though small compared with the gatherings of the present time, included, for those days, a very large attendance.

FOREST CITY.

An important commercial town of the county, and, as late as the summer of 1868, a well-known shipping point on the Missouri River, was laid out by a company composed of Tootle & Fairleigh, of St. Joseph, Missouri; Zook & Patterson, and Nave & Turner, the two latter firms from Oregon, Missouri.

The land on which this town was laid out, a tract of 520 acres, was purchased by the company of the original proprietor, Joel Baldwin, for about ten thousand dollars. It is now in Forest Township, twenty-eight miles north by west of St. Joseph, on the main line of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad and occupies a surface 877 feet above the sea level. The first sale of lots occurred May 15, 1857, and the place, forthwith, began to be settled and improved rapidly. The first store building in the place was put up by Tootle, Fairleigh & Co. It was a large two story frame building, on the northwest corner of Commercial and Holt streets, fronting on the latter, and later occupied by Joseph Groves, dealer in general merchandise. It is now occupied by the Forest City News. It was built in the summer of 1857. In the same year, Nave, Turner & Co., put up the store building afterward occupied by J. M. Ford & Smith. Others followed in rapid succession, and the town was built up. The first building in the town, a two-story business house was commenced in 1857, and completed in the following year, by Zook & Baldwin, and occupied by them as a drug store, the first established in the place. The senior member of this firm, Daniel Zook, was a prominent lawyer of the county, and until his death a few years ago was a resident of Oregon. The building is now, and has been since 1872, occupied by the drug store of John France & Company.

The first hotel in Forest City was kept in a two story frame house near the northern extremity of Commercial street. It was built by the town company in 1859, and was opened by George W. Glasgow, who continued to keep it about one year, at the end of which period he was succeeded by L. B. Green, who purchased the property of the town company.

The first blacksmith established in Forest City was John W. Moody, formerly of Independence, Missouri. He removed from Oregon, Missouri, to Forbes City, where he opened his shop in the summer of 1857.

The first postmaster in the town was Daniel Zook, appointed in 1857. He was succeeded by Alvin Conklin, who, in 1860, was succeeded by George Weber. The fourth in succession was Hon. H. K. S. Robinson. He became postmaster on the resignation of George Weber, in 1877. Miss Mary M. Canon was appointed to succeed the former in 1881, at which time Messrs. Weber and Robinson accepted positions in the Frazer & McDonald Bank.

Miss Canon was succeeded by the following named gentlemen: William S. Canon, 1885; George Baldwin, 1889; John France, 1893; H. L. Everson, 1897; Neville Dickson, 1901; Thomas Meyer, 1908; Nelson R. Cook, 1913.

SCHOOLS.

The first school taught in Forest City, was during the winter of 1857-58, in a small frame building. The first teacher of this school was James Walden, from Kentucky. He was succeeded, in 1858, by Miss Mary Hart. This was a private enterprise. About ten years after, a brick public school building was erected on the summit of the abrupt hill-range, which divides the business from the residence portion of the town. This was a house fifty by twenty feet in area, with a hall through the center. The cost of the building was about two thousand dollars. The first who taught in this school was Prof. Thornton, assisted by Miss Mary Canon. The building was destroyed by fire in the winter of 1874-75. The location of this house was not a little remarkable, and about the only claim to be advanced in favor of the site was the fact that, in the summer season, when schools were not generally in session, it was, from its extraordinary elevation (about one hundred and fifty feet above the level of Commercial street, an airy situation, and one that commanded an extensive perceptive of the surrounding country. The ascent from the level of the town to the summit of the elevation on which this house was perched, is exceedingly abrupt and, in some conditions of weather, must have been impossible from more than one way of approach.

The present graded school of Forest City was commenced in July, 1875, and completed in October of the same year. It is a two-story brick building, containing at the time of its erection four rooms, two of which were on the first, and the others on the second floor. The building was remodeled in 1912 by the addition of two large rooms, a basement and other improvements. The building stands on Grand avenue, in the eastern part of the town. Its cost has been about $10,000.

The first session of the public school in this building opened in November, 1875. Prof. Samuel Ruley was principal, assisted by Miss Helen Lehmer, now Mrs. Emil Weber. The school opened in the fall of 1876, with the same teachers. In the fall of 1877, Lee Helsley became principal, assisted by Miss Helen Lehmer and Mrs. E. F. Welch.

The colored school is taught in a frame building at the north end of Commercial street. This first opened January 4, 1878, with William Barnes as teacher. He also taught the session which opened September, 1878. October, 1879, the school opened in charge of Miss Lizzie Patterson. September, 1880,

Mrs. A. N. B. Sprague had charge of the school. This school was discontinued in 1901.

EARLY BUSINESS.

As early as 1857, Nave, Turner & Co., started a grocery jobbing house in the store room later occupied by Ford & Smith, on Commercial street. This they continued till about 1859. In those days whisky was abundant, cheap and readily obtainable anywhere, and it was not till 1858 that James S. Simpson opened the first saloon in Forest City. Whisky in those days sold at from eighteen to twenty-five cents per gallon.

Forest City, from the period of its foundation, till the summer of 1868, when the Missouri River suddenly turned westward and left the town two and a half miles inland, was a place of no inconsiderable importance as a shipping point, and it early became the port from which a vast amount of produce of all kinds was shipped by water. The great staple in those days was hemp, and as many as thirteen steamboats have been tied up at one time, at the wharf, awaiting freight. By the caving of the river banks, before that uncertain stream left the town, a considerable portion of Forest City, amounting, probably, to one-third its original area, which was spread over the bottom, had disappeared.

In the summer of 1868 the last boat landed at Forest City, and was moored to the rails of the then Kansas City, St. Joseph and Council Bluffs Railroad track, which, on the 10th day of August of that year, had been completed from St. Joseph at that point. This was the Carrie P. Kuntz. On this boat W. and J. W. Zook made their last shipment, by water, of a lot of corn from this point. This shipment amounted to three thousand and seven sacks of corn. By the following day the Missouri was flowing two and a half miles west of the town, and naught remained but the sluggish sediment of the forsaken river bed to tell of the late bustle and animation of thronging boats, which were to visit her port no more.

In its palmiest days the mercantile business of Forest City amounted to not less than $300,000 a year, to say nothing of the vast shipping interests of the place. The original heavy dealers of the town were Turner, Frazer & Co., and Tootle, Fairleigh & Co. In 1865, the heavy firms doing business there were Frazer & Brittain and W. & J. W. Zook. Dr. H. M. Wilson was the first physician to locate in the town. He came in 1857, as did also George Weber, the banker. Of those who came in the following year, were J. M. Ford, a merchant; M. T. Collins, carpenter; William Burgess, G. W. Hitt, an undertaker and builder. W. H. Williams came in the succeeding year.

In 1839, William Burgess, in partnership with Thomas Cun-

ningham, started near the north end of the town a pottery, which they continued to operate for some time, but finally abandoned for more directly remunerative pursuits. Among the early business men of the town was Orville Graves, later of the firm of Graves & Weber, and in 1865, a member of the firm of Graves & Faucett.

One of the early enterprises of the town is the Forest City Brewery. This was first started in a small frame building, put up for the purpose in 1859 by a man by the name of C. Krauss. In the beginning of the following year Krauss & Engel erected the brick structure on stone foundation which now constitutes the brewery building. The parties pursued the business here four or five years. Capt. Albert Roecker, a prominent citizen of the county, and later engaged in the banking business in Oregon, was at one time identified with the interests of this brewery. Jacob Schweinfurth purchased it of William Zook, of St. Joseph, into whose hands it had subsequently fallen, and in January, 1881, commenced the manufacture of beer. The original cost of the building was about $15,000. It was sold to Jacob Schweinfurth for $2,500 and the manufacture of beer was discontinued.

The first mill in the town was established by Gabriel and George Mauck in 1867. It was located in the northern part of the city on block 88. This mall was destroyed by fire November 8, 1884, the loss being about $15,000. W. S. Canon owned the mill at the time of its destruction.

The mill now standing in the southern part of the city was established by John A. Richardson, L. M. Kaull and O. C. Plummer. They conducted it for several years when Mr. Kaull retired and a number of prominent grangers became interested. In 1881 it passed into the hands of a company composed of J. P. Adams, William Kaucher, J. H. C. Curtis and others. It finally went to sale under an execution and S. T. Lucas and Levi Oren became the owners. These gentlemen conducted the business for several years when they moved the machinery to Mound City. What remained of the plant stood idle for several years and in July, 1893, a company with $10,000 capital was organized and purchased the buildings and grounds. New machinery was installed. John Morris was general manager.

The mill did well for a time, but eventually the milling trust got in its work and this enterprise, like nearly all others of the kind in small towns, was forced to quit. But it did not remain idle long. The interests of John Morris and his associates were purchased by the Forest City Milling and Elevator Company, of which A. H. Bailey is president; W. E. Richardson, vice-president; G. L. Penny, secretary and treasurer and H. L. Everson, manager. This company does a general elevator business and

in addition makes meal, graham flour and feed. It was reincorporated in 1914.

The Forest City Canning Company was organized in 1898 and began operations in August of that year. The plant was built by Allen Brothers, wholesale grocers of Omaha, at a cost of $7,000. The citizens of Forest City subscribed $2,500 toward the enterprise. Mr. Allen died in 1915 and the same year the plant was purchased by John Speer and L. P. Watson who had been manager for Mr. Allen. The plant is still in operation (1916).

Forest City's first telephone exchange was a rather unpretentious affair. In fact it hardly could be considered an exchange at all as that word is understood nowadays. It was a private line between Oregon and Forest City and was built in 1890. John France, Jr., was the owner, manager, board of directors and all at Forest City and Wilbur Thorpe filled a corresponding position in Oregon. It served the admirable purpose of a means of communication between the two towns until the Oregon & Forest City Telephone Company, of which D. M. Martin of Oregon, was president and M. R. Martin superintendent, purchased the line. The history of this enterprise will be found under the head of Oregon in the chapter on Lewis Township.

The electric lights and water service are furnished by the Oregon municipal plant, which has its power station here. The towns are located in close proximity and it makes easy the arrangement which they have perfected for dividing the expense of such utilities, thus making the burden easier for each.

W. E. Bennett started an excelsior plant in Forest City in 1892 which for a time was one of the important industries of the town. He sold the plant in 1897 to W. E. Richardson and W. M. Hitt. For several years a large number of men were given employment converting the virgin cottonwood logs into excelsior. There was always a good demand for the product of this factory, but eventually the supply of cottonwood timber became too scarce to make the operation of the plant practicable. About 1902 it was converted into an ice manufacturing plant and is still operated as such. It was sold in 1915 to J. E. McCoy.

Among the important business enterprises of Forest City should be mentioned the Farmers' Elevator Company, which was organized in September, 1915, and began business in December the same year. It has a capital stock of $6,000, divided among thirty-seven stockholders. The company deals in wheat, oats, flour and coal. The officers are Philip Schlotzhauer, president; Jacob E. Raiser, vice-president; Omar A. Williams, secretary; Henry E. Combs, manager.

NEWSPAPERS.

Strange as it may seem Forest City has had more newspapers wrecked on the rocks of financial disaster than any other town in the county.

The first venture of this kind was the Forest City Monitor, which was started by Van Natta & Colvin in 1858. In 1859 the name was changed to the Courier and A. R. Conklin took charge. It lived but a short time. Daniel Zook came next with the Sentinel, which he launched in 1863. After a few issues he graduated from country journalism into more lucrative fields. The same year, however, S. M. C. Reynolds and D. O. Wasson began issuing the Missouri Express. The firm seems to have dissolved in 1868, for the records show M. C. Reynolds as the publisher of the Express in that year. The Holt County Journal, published by T. H. & R. A. Frame, made its appearance in February, 1869, and survived for two and a half months. The Independent was established in the winter of 1869, by Bowman Brothers; they sold in 1870 to D. P. Ballard who kept the paper alive but a few weeks. The plant was removed to Rockport. John M. Hasness, afterwards active in the newspaper business in Holt County, being one of the purchasers. The Sun was founded by H. H. Hoskins in 1889 who stayed until August, 1892, when he removed the plant to Oregon. The Independent was established the same year by a Mr. Briggs. It passed into the hands of a Mr. Munson and then into the control of Edward S. Hayes, who in the fall of 1894 moved the plant to Oregon and consolidated with the Democrat then being published there by J. S. Rigdon. Clara B. Dobyns established the Record on January 30, 1897. It continued for about one year. In May, 1899, the Journal was entered in the newspaper field by A. J. and F. Ulsh, who weathered the journalistic storms until June, 1900. The Messenger of Love, a religious paper, was published by W. P. Haynes and G. P. Keeling from the Journal plant.

Early in 1901 H. Boyd & Company brought forth the New Century which lasted but a short time. The first issue of the Star, by J. W. and J. O. Morris, came from the press October 11, 1901. This paper ceased publication in April, 1903. It was bought by O. R. King in June of that year. King continued on the job until January, 1904, when he sold to Fred R. Barkhurst, now managing editor of the St. Joseph Gazette. Barkhurst changed the name to the Press. He continued the publication until November 9, 1906, when the paper suspended and the material was sold to Tice Speer, who moved it to Watson. The News was established by Henry Williams June 14, 1907, and suspended October 31, the same year. It was revived by a Mr. Deckers in December following. O. M. Gilmer bought the paper August 13, 1909, and sold it to Fred Beavers September 1, 1910. The News is still being published by Mr. Beavers (1916).

INCORPORATION—MAYORS.

The first sale of town lots in Forest City was held May 15, 1857, and the town began to fill up rapidly with a thrifty class of citizens. The town was incorporated by a special act of the legislature passed March 12, 1861, and George Weber was chosen the first mayor. It became a city of the fourth class March 30, 1888.

The original town plat was filed May 16, 1857; the second plat was filed June 2, 1858; the third plat September 30, 1868. Baldwin's addition was platted August 3, 1860.

The following named have served in the office of Mayor of Forest City, since its incorporation, the dates given being years in which they were elected:

George Weber, 1861; Hiram Patterson, 1868; J. D. Tritt, 1869; W. A. Joy, 1870; J. D. Tritt, 1871; Hiram Patterson, 1872; William Dean, 1873; Henry Thomas, 1874; John France, 1875; S. M. Glass, 1876; T. J. Wilkinson, 1879; S. M. Glass, 1881; T. J. Wilkinson, 1882; J. B. Lamb, 1889; T. J. Wilkinson, 1890; John Winkler, 1892; T. J. Wilkinson, 1894; E. M. Austin, 1896; J. B. Lamb, 1898; E. M. Austin, 1900.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

The Forest City Masonic Lodge was the first secret society organized in the town. It came into existence under a special dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Missouri and was set to work July 8, 1860. Under this dispensation Milton S. Moodie was W. M.; Levi Zook, S. W.; and Hiram Patterson, J. W. The lodge continued under dispensation until June 17, 1861, when they assembled under charter. On June 24, 1861, occurred the first election of officers.

The first Odd Fellows Lodge in Forest City was organized June 19, 1899. The officers elected were: A. J. Ulsh, N. G.; E. M. Austin, V. G.; C. G. Landon, secretary; L. R. Watson, treasurer. In November the following year the lodge occupied its new quarters over the city hall. January 14, 1901, the Rebekkahs perfected an organization with Mrs. Vine Hovey, Noble Grand. An Encampment was organized November 26, 1902, and the ninety-first anniversary of the order was celebrated.

The Modern Woodmen of America organized a camp in Forest City January 24, 1900. W. H. Alkire was chosen V. C., and Charles Gennett, clerk.

The Fraternal Home organized a lodge on June 22, 1905. O. D. Gelvin was chosen first past president and Charles Williams, secretary.

The Fraternal Aid Association was organized January 22,

1896. Dr. F. E. Bullock was chosen P. P.; W. M. Hitt, secretary; E. M. Austin, treasurer.

A Camp of Woodmen of the World was organized November 26, 1898.

The Knights and Ladies of Security organized a lodge here February 2, 1915.

BANKS.

The Bank of Forest City was first organized as a private bank in 1873 and was known as the Frazer & McDonald Bank, the partners being B. B. Frazer and Dr. D. McDonald. In July, 1878, it was incorporated with a capital stock of $20,000. George Weber, one of the prominent and respected citizens of Forest City, was president of the bank from 1881 to 1894. He was succeeded by E. M. Austin who served until the reorganization in 1898. H. K. S. Robinson, who figured prominently in the early history of the town, was also cashier or teller for a number of years. He was succeeded by W. M. Hitt, who held the office until 1898. The bank's present home was built in 1874. In 1898 it went into voluntary liquidation because of the expiration of its charter. It was at once re-incorporated for fifty years with a capital of $25,000. Thomas Cottier was elected president, but died in a short time and the vacancy was filled by the election of John France, Sr. He served until 1902 when he was followed by Emil Weber. Mr. Weber resigned in 1916 and was succeeded by W. E. Richardson. E. M. Austin assumed the duties of the office of cashier upon the reorganization in 1898 and served until 1902, when he was succeeded by B. G. Austin, who gave way to H. L. Everson in 1904. Mr. Everson was followed in 1913 by O. W. Mullen. Dr. F. E. Bullock served as vice-president from 1902 to 1907 when he was succeeded by W. E. Richardson, who became president in 1916 at which time Emil Weber became vice-president. In addition to its working capital this bank has a surplus and undivided profits account of $11,000.

The Home Bank of Forest City was incorporated in March, 1910, with a capital of $20,000. It opened for business in June following. The stockholders were: John France, Sr., president; Phillip Schlotzhauer, vice-president; W. N. Sawyer, cashier; W. J. Lunsford, John D. Glass and R. B. Bridgeman. John France, Sr., was succeeded as president by Philip Schlotzhauer in 1911. He still holds the office (1916). L. L. Teare took the place of vice-president made vacant by the promotion of Mr. Schlotzhauer. W. N. Sawyer, the first cashier, resigned in 1911, and the duties of the office were performed by Miss Mary Haley and Harry C. Teare, assistant cashiers. They were succeeded in 1913 by Neville Dickson, who gave way the following year to Russell H. Sheffield, who is now cashier (1916). Bertram S.

Fairbanks was made assistant cashier in 1913. The bank has undivided profits amounting to $2,000.

THE DEPOT

The old depot was one of the landmarks in Forest City and Vine Hovey became famous all over the Burlington system for the long terms of years he served as agent. After doing duty as a business house for a great railroad corporation for thirty-nine years, the depot was moved and rebuilt—being placed about fifty feet east of its original location. There have been but six agents in charge of the Forest City Station: Frank Briggs, June to October, 1868; Charles Sloane, to December, 1870; R. N. Howell to September, 1879; Vine Hovey to October, 1905; R. C. Fredericks to November 1, 1907, when J. L. Birmingham, the present agent, took charge (1916).

PARK.

Through the generosity of George Weber, for many years one of the leading business men of the town, Forest City enjoys the pleasures of a beautiful park, situated immediately west of the railroad depot. It is about five acres in extent and was donated to the community in 1912. The tract has been immensely improved by grading and sodding and the erection of suitable buildings, fences and walks. A small cannon of the type used in the Civil war is one of the objects of interest.

CHURCHES.

The first church built in Forest City was erected by the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. It is a brick structure on Grand avenue, thirty-four by fifty-one feet. It was built in 1860, chiefly by means of the material aid and through the exertions of Hiram Patterson and L. Zook, then selling goods in the town. These gentlemen contributed $500 toward the enterprise. Joshua T. Sedwick was also a liberal contributor, and superintended the erection of the building, which cost about $4,000. In 1860, the M. E. Church, South, sold this building to the Missionary Baptists.

The first to preach the gospel in Forest City was the Rev. Benjamin Baxter, of the M. E. Church, South, and an active organizer of the same in the town. This was several years before the erection of their house of worship. The records of this church are incomplete and unsatisfactory, and it is impossible to provide anything like a complete history of the organization. In 1869, less than three years after the sale of their church to the Baptists, the M. E. Church, South, erected another building. This was a gothic frame, on Walnut street. H. Patterson, of St. Joseph, and J. T. Sedwick, of Craig, in Holt County, were espe-

cially active in the building of the church, and succeeded in raising in a few days, the necessary funds (about $2,200) for its erection. Among the other organizers of this church were Hiram Wiggins, L. B. Green, H. Patterson, and their wives.

The Missionary Baptist Church was organized March 31, 1866, with twenty-four members, among whom were C. J. Hart, G. W. Hitt, John S. Pugh, Mrs. Elizabeth Turner, Mrs. Alice Archer, William A. Joy, Henry C. Offutt, Miss Lizzie Offutt, H. E. Offutt, Mrs. Emma J. Hitt, Charles E. Joy, Isaac D. Brown, Miss Susan F. Banks, Miss Virginia Offutt, Miss M. F. Riley, Mrs. M. J. Williams, Mrs. Jemima Pugh, Mrs. Mary J. Hart and Mrs. Turner.

The first minister of this church was the Rev. G. W. Huntley. He was succeeded April, 1870, by Rev. R. M. Rhodes. In 1874, Rev. E. S. Irely was pastor. Rev. S. J. Cook succeeded to the ministry of this church in 1877, and served till 1879.

The Christians began in 1875, the erection of a frame church near the eastern extremity of Grand avenue. It was not entirely completed till the winter of 1881-82. Its cost was about $1,500. Elder T. J. Williamson was pastor.

The third ecclesiastical edifice built in Forest City was the Roman Catholic Church, near the northern extremity of Commercial street. Its erection was superintended by the Rev. Father Welch, of St. Joseph, in 1869. It was a frame building, completed at a cost of $1,500. The dedication sermon was preached to a large congregation by the Right Rev. Bishop Hogan of St. Joseph.

The old School Presbyterians have an organization in Forest City. They are without a church edifice of their own ,but occupy the M. E. Church, South.

INDIAN BURIAL GROUND.

On the summit of the abrupt elevation of about one hundred and fifty feet, which divides the town of Forest City, were some years ago found, but a short distance below the surface, numerous human bones, and in some instances, complete skeletons, supposed to be the remains of Indians, whose bodies were buried there at a period long anterior to the arrival of the whites in the country. Some of these relics are in the possession of Dr. H. M. Wilson.

SHIPPING INTERESTS.

Forest City, in the days of its early and vigorous prosperity, was as before intimated, a noted shipping point by steamboat on the Missouri River, which left it shortly after the completion

of the Kansas City, St. Joseph and Council Bluffs Railroad to that town. Though its shipments by rail amount, in the course of the year to no trifling figure, they are inconsiderable compared with the amount of produce hauled by wagon, every year, through its streets, northward, southward and westward. In the matter of apples alone, of which Holt County has an immense acreage, as many as one hundred and sixty wagon loads have crossed the White Cloud ferry to Kansas, in a single day. In the fall of 1880 John Lyons, the ferryman at this point, took in over four thousand dollars for nothing but the old bed of the river through which the Tarkio now flows separating the town site from Rush Island, or, as it was formerly called, Solomon's Island, a body of land including between three thousand and four thousand acres of inexhaustibly fertile soil.

CHAPTER XIX.

FORBES TOWNSHIP ONE OF HISTORICAL INTEREST—SOME OF THE FIRST SETTLERS IN THE COUNTY LOCATED IN WHAT IS NOW FORBES TOWNSHIP—EARLY EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH TRADING PLACES—ORGANIZATION OF THE PRESENT TOWN OF FORBES—EARLY AND PRESENT DAY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES.

At a regular term of the county court of Holt County, held at the court house, in Oregon, on the 22d day of March, 1871, it was ordered that a new municipal township be created out of the southern portion of Nodaway Township, and bounded as follows:

"Commencing at the southwest corner of section 6, township 59, range 37, thence south to the southwest corner of section 18, township 59, range 37; thence west to the northwest quarter of section 23, township 59, range 38; thence south to the Missouri River; thence down the left bank thereof to the mouth of the Nodaway River, thence up on the right bank of the Nodaway River to the south line of section 1, township 59, range 37; thence west to the place of beginning. All that part lying within these boundaries shall hereafter be known as Forbes Township, and the place of voting shall be at the town of Forbes."

On the 10th of May, 1872, the dividing line between congressional townships fifty-nine and sixty was made the northern boundary of Forbes Township. The tier of sections from one to six, inclusive, on the north boundary of this township, was thus taken from Nodaway Township and annexed to Forbes, thereby adding nearly six entire sections to the latter township, and increasing its area to its present (1882) limits.

The outline of this township, from the fact that a considerable portion of the same is bounded by the Missouri and Nodaway Rivers, is necessarily irregular, and where the boundaries are straight lines, Lewis Township cuts a notch out of the northwest corner of Forbes, two miles east and west by three miles north and south. It is thus bounded on the north two miles by Lewis Township, and six miles by Nodaway Township; on the east it is bounded by the Nodaway River, which separates it from Andrew County, and also by the Missouri River; on the south by the Missouri River, which separates it from the state of Kansas; and, on the west by Lewis Township.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.

Forbes Township includes a considerable diversity of surface. The bluff formation, which, within its limits, begins on the north line of section twenty-three, township 59, range 38, ex-

tends in an eastward by southerly direction to section 29 of range 38, in the same township where stands the town of Forbes, thence in a nearly due easterly direction to the confluence of the Nodaway with the Missouri River, in the southeast corner of the county, the whole extent of this chain of elevation including a distance of about eight miles. To the southward of this bluff extends the wide expanse of Little Tarkio and Missouri River bottom lands, which generally are, or were originally heavily timbered. The bluff lands, or those immediately to the northward of the same, are very broken, and the general aspect of that portion of the township extending beyond these, even to its extreme northern limits, present the aspect of a rolling country.

Though including within its limits a considerable amount of prairie land, Forbes Township was originally one of the best timbered districts of the county. Besides all the other different varieties of wood proper to this section of country, a considerable amount of superior walnut has been cut and shipped from its limits, and though materially decreased from the yield of former years, this still continues to be a valuable item of export. Limestone of superior quality exists in exhaustless deposits along the water courses, and in the bluffs of this township. This is well adapted for building purposes, and is extensively quarried.

STREAMS.

This township is abundantly provided with water, for stock and domestic uses. Unfailing springs of living water abound within its limits, and is otherwise readily obtained at reasonable depths, by digging. Besides the rivers on its boundaries, there are several minor streams within its limits. The old channel of the Little Tarkio enters Forbes Township at the northwest corner of section 28, township 59, range 38, and flows in a generally southeasterly direction to the northeast corner of section 32, where it makes a bend of nearly a mile, flowing northward and then eastward, entering the Missouri River in section 26. Prior to its cutting into the Missouri above Forest City, where its principal volume now flows through the old forsaken channel of the Missouri River, the Little Tarkio was a stream of no inconsiderable importance in Forbes Township. It was over one hundred feet wide, very deep, and abounded in buffalo, pike, salmon and cat-fish. As many as thirty cats, weighing from fifteen to thirty pounds each, have been taken at a single haul from the creek.

Easter Branch rises near the center of the township and, flowing in a southeasterly and southerly direction, enters the old channel of the Little Tarkio, about one mile east of the town of Forbes.

In the northern part of the township Harden's Branch rises, near the northern boundary of section 4, township 59, range 37,

and, flowing in a southeasterly direction, enters the Nodaway River in section 12 of the same township.

The Nodaway River, which forms the eastern boundary of the township, was declared a navigable stream, by act of the Legislature, in 1839. A chute was formed by the Nodaway River and an arm of the Missouri, on the east side of Nodaway Island; and, in the days of steamboating, was a noted thoroughfare for that class of vessels. The steamer Watosa of St. Joseph, running between that city and Omaha, was sunk in the Nodaway Chute, about 1865. The bell of this boat was hung in a steeple on the Nodaway, near the state ferry, by Richard Danelsbeck. The Watosa was designed to run between points below Hollister's Mill, in the northeast corner of Nodaway Township, and is, by the sinuosities of the stream, about twenty miles distant from the mouth of the Nodaway. While referring to this river, before entering on the history proper of Forbes Township, it may be as well to state that, as early as 1839, there existed on the same, with a western landing on the northeast quarter of township 59, range 37, in what is now Forbes Township, a ferry owned and operated by a man by the name of Rose, and known as Rose's Ferry. This has long passed out of existence. A ferry is now in operation at the mouth of the Nodaway River.

EARLY SETTLERS.

The first white settlers of Forbes Township were also the first to locate within the limits of Holt County. These were Peter and Blank Stephenson, brothers, from Indiana. Blank brought with him a wife. Peter was unmarried. They arrived in the spring of 1838, and settled on the southeast quarter of section 7, township 59, range 37. This section is contiguous to the present eastern boundary of Lewis Township, and is about five miles southeast of the site of the present town of Oregon. The farm is now the property of Solomon A. Meyer. Immediately on their arrival, the stephensons put in a crop of corn. In the fall of the same year came, also from Indiana, John Russel with his wife and seven children, R. H. Russel, later judge of the Probate Court of Holt County, a younger brother, and, at the period of his arrival, an unmarried man, John Sterritt, wife and two children, one of whom, W. H. Sterritt, was afterward a prominent merchant of the town of Oregon, and James Kee, also from Indiana. At the period of the arrival of these new-comers, Blank Stephenson and wife and his brother Peter were the only white people living west of the Nodaway River, and the arrival of the new-comers was hailed with a welcome which only pioneers know how to extend and to appreciate.

John Russel first settled on the southwest quarter of section 8, township 59, range 37, directly east of Blank Stephenson's.

John Sterritt settled on the northwest quarter of section 8, township 59, range 37, directly north of John Russel's. Peter, Blank Stephenson's brother, settled in the same section. He moved away during the Civil war, about 1864, and, going south, settled in Dade County, Missouri, near Golden City post office. There was no other arrival until the 9th of October, 1838, when William R. Russel, the first born of the white population of Holt County, first saw the light on the above described farm of his father, within the limits of what is now Forbes Township. In the following spring and summer settlers began to flock in. Among others, came from Indiana, Mrs. Rachel Jackson, a widow with a large family of children, among them Alexander Rogers, a grown son by a former marriage. Mrs. Jackson, who died in January, 1882, at the advanced age of upwards of ninety years, was, at the period of her demise, a resident of Council Bluffs, Iowa, where she kept a hotel for several years. She was said by those who knew her for more than a generation, to be a woman of rare executive ability and great force of character. The place which she settled is the southwest quarter of section 5, township 59, range 37, now in the northern tier of Forbes Township sections, was in that day included within the limits of Nodaway Township. This farm was afterwards purchased by Judge George McIntyre, and the house built by Mrs. Jackson was an interesting curiosity to the growing generations. It was a substantial double log house, each room eighteen feet square, with a hall between them nine feet wide. The white oak logs of which the building is composed were afterwards weather-boarded. This, at the period when it was first built, was the best house in the county.

Mrs. Jackson, in an early day, here kept the first house of public entertainment in the county. Here, also, convened the March term of the Circuit Court of Holt County, just one year after the organization of that body in the house of William Thorp, on the northwest quarter of section 12, township 59, range 38, of Lewis Township, where it first assembled, March 24, 1841. On the 4th day of March, 1841, just twenty days before the assembling of the county court, the house of William Thorp was also the scene of the inauguration of the first Circuit Court of Holt County, the proceedings of which are elsewhere detailed.

Mrs. Jackson's house was, on several subsequent occasions, used to accommodate these courts, and was long a noted locality in the early days of Holt County. Of Mrs. Jackson's children by her second marriage, several afterwards became representative men in the country. Andrew, the eldest son, is the founder of Jackson's Point, now Mound City, in Holt County. In 1853, he moved to California and settled in the Susane Valley, midway between Sacramento and San Francisco, where he was, for years,

a leading grain merchant; Franklin Jackson, his brother, became a prominent insurance man of San Francisco; Wilson Jackosn, a fourth son, died young; Ellen, her eldest daughter, married Alexander Record, later of Glenwood, Iowa; Mary, another daughter, was the wife of Abijah Duncan, since dead; Margaret, the youngest, died young.

INDIAN SCARE.

It is related that the first born of Holt experienced, in early infancy, a narrow escape from the consequences of what proved to be a groundless terror on the part of a number of the community of settlers: It appears that one Vesser, an itinerant trader, had killed an Indian in a remote part of the county, and an undue apprehension, on the part of the small band of settlers had been awakened, that the Indians would wreak their vengeance upon them. Alexander Rogers, above referred to, was especially persuaded that such would be the case. John Sterritt and John Russel had both gone to the bottom-lands, some miles distant, to look after their cattle which were there being wintered on the rushes that grew rankly in that locality.

The only men about the settlement then were R. H. Russel, Isaac Massey and Alexander Rogers. The alarm was given late in the evening, and these three, with the women and children, promptly fled through the snow to the neighboring woods. In the course of their flight the infant, William Russel, began to cry. This so terrified Rogers that he promptly expressed himself in favor of smothering the child, whose screams, he believed, would reveal their presence to the murderous Indians. The indignation of the mother and jeers of the men, however, triumphed over his insane alarm, and the sacrifice of an innocent babe was averted.

After a halt of some hours in the cover of a dense wood, about midnight, the snort of a horse which happened to be in the party was instantly construed into a signal of the approach of the blood-thirsty red-men. In an instant all was excitement, and the valiant Alex again bethought him of that baby and of the possibility of its again giving a scream. Fortunately the destroying savage proved to be an antlered buck whose glaring eyeballs gleaming in the pale starlight, had startled the horse. By no means, however, satisfied of their safety, the fugitives proceeded through the snow to the Nodaway River, a distance of four miles. Crossing this stream on a raft, the men left the women and children on the Andrew County side, and returned. On their arrival they found John Sterritt and John Russel, who had just got back from the bottom. They immediately went to work and barricaded and otherwise fortified the house, which was a log building, on the Russel farm.

In a few days, however, it became apparent that the scare was absolutely groundless. No Indians were in the immediate neighborhood, and those in other parts of the Purchase had not, if they were conscious of their existence, the slightest idea of in any way molesting the settlers. Thus, the first stampede from the settlement proved happily the result of a causeless alarm at which the pioneers could afford to laugh, as the almost daily increasing neighborhood pursued the even tenor of its way. William R. Russel, whose escape from the effects of terrors of Rogers, which produced the incident above detailed, not only survived his infant flight, but grew to manhood, and later became a resident of San Bernardino County, California, where he was successfully engaged in the nursery business.

In the summer of 1840 George and Augustus Borchers started, within the present limtis of Forbes Township, the "Pioneer Store" of Holt County. The senior member of this primitive and original mercantile enterprise of this county has been dead for some years. They were the first Germans to settle within the limits of Holt County, and the first foreigners naturalized there. They bore the character of men of strict integrity, as well as of sterling business capacity. Their initial start in business was, of course, in keeping with the demands of the settlement, and necessarily on a very small scale. Their store stood on the northwest corner of the southwest quarter of section 7, township 59, range 37, on a farm later the property of George Meyer, within the present limits of Forbes Township, but included, in that day, in the area of Nodaway, the eastern of the two original townships into which the county, on its organization, was divided. They continued to do a fair business here for about two years, when the newly established town of Oregon absorbed their trade.

It appears that Blank Stephenson was the first to hold the office of constable within the limtis of Holt County, at that period included within the limits of Buchanan County. This was in 1839. His first official experience is rather amusing, and was as follows: He started on the track of a horse thief, and pursuing him as far as English Grove, a locality now included within the present limits of Atchison County, he halted for the night. Awakening the next morning, the astute constable was amazed to find that the thief had overtaken him, and made a second haul by stealing his horse. The baffled official was thus reduced to the necessity of walking back home, where his crest-fallen appearance, in due time, failed not to excite the derision of the community, in which his first exploit long after remained a standing joke.

The unfortunate Blank Stephenson met a tragic and untimely end. In the month of July, 1840, as he was in the act of crossing his yard fence with a load of kitchen wood in his arms, he was struck by lightning and instantly killed. The first violent

death of a white person in the county was thus the visitation of Providence on the head of the first settler. It appears that this untimely victim of the thunderbolt, though a person of honorable impulse, was a man of turbulent disposition and powerfully atheltic frame. On that very morning he had prepared himself for a fisticuff encounter with another who claimed the championship of the neighborhood, and was almost in the act of starting to the scene of the anticipated fight, when he was suddenly and terribly conquered by an invincible adversary. The spot on which transpired this lamentable occurrence was near the site of Borcher's store, on the farm above described as the property of the George Meyer estate.

Blank Stephenson was the first who obtained a license to sell whisky in the county. This was granted March 21, 1841, by the first county court. The instrument granted to George Drane and Blank Stephenson license to keep "grocery" for the term of twelve months by paying ten dollars.

In 1839, William, the father of John and Peter Stephenson, came out from Indiana, and remained in Holt County, residing in Forbes Township up to the period of his death, which occurred at the age of fifty-two years, in December, 1841. With their father, in 1839, came William Stephenson, Jr., who died of the measles while serving in the Mexican war. John for many years lived four miles from Oregon. Mike and also Alexander Stephenson died in 1843.

FIRST PREACHER.

The first to preach the gospel within the limits of what is now Holt County, was the Rev. William Thorp, a Hardshell Baptist minister from Clay County. It is believed that, inasmuch as the bulk of the population were at that time residing within what is now included within the limits of Forbes Township, that it was, in that locality, that the reverend pioneer preached his first sermon.

FIRST CHURCH ORGANIZED.

The first church or class of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Holt County was organized by Rev. Edwin Peary, at the residence of Elias Davidson, two miles north of the present town of Forbes and five or six miles southeast of Oregon. This was in the winter or spring of 1841. Besides the minister and his wife, the members of this organization were Benjamin Davidson and wife, John Robison, George Scott and wife, William Robison and wife, Josiah Pierce and wife, Chloe Pierce and Frances A. Pierce, a daughter of the two last mentioned, and perhaps a few others.

The first Sunday School in the county was organized in 1841 by Rev. William Hamilton, of the Iowa and Sac Mission, in an old log cabin school house.

FIRST SCHOOL.

The first building erected for the special purpose of a school for the instruction of youth, was a rude log house, which stood within the limits of what is now Forbes Township, in the northwest quarter of section 7, township 59, range 37, on a farm adjoining the east boundary line of Lewis Township, and later owned by John Stephenson, and about three miles southeast of Oregon. This building was put up in the spring of 1840, by the residents of the neighborhood, and was completed in the course of one day, each man appearing on the appointed morning with his logs and whatever other material he was assigned to bring.

The original structure, which was afterwards slightly improved, was necessarily of the rudest description. Benches were extemporized from puncheons split from linden logs; the floor was of similar material and construction. Greased paper, in the long, narrow aperture created by the removal of a log from the wall of the building for the purpose of affording a window, supplied the absence of glass. The house was eighteen feet square. The first teacher to exercise his vocation in this primitive temple of the muses was Gilbert Ray; then a man by the name of Scoville. He was shortly after succeeded by another by the name of John Worley, from Indiana. Among the pupils who first attended this school were Elias and Cassandra Davidson, Henry, Sarah and Milton Russel, children of the pioneer, John Russel, who died in 1861; Henry and Eliza Sterritt, children of John Sterritt, who died in 1846, and James and Mike Stephenson, children of Wm. Stephenson, Sr., who died in the early part of the winter of 1841. The site of this pioneer structure, which was torn down in 1846, still betrays an unmistakable relic of its existence in the debris of a long-fallen chimney of ponderous stone, as well as the occasional presence of a rock of comparatively larger dimensions which probably served to underpin the corner of this ancient and long extinguished structure, amid whose former area grew, in wild luxuriance, the hazel bush, the tall weeds and wild flowers which, in their rocky neighborhood, blossom and wither in safe exemption from the farmer's plowshare.

OTHER EARLY SETTLERS.

Prominent among the other early settlers of what is now Forbes Township, were Smith McIntyre, who arrived in 1839, and died in 1881, on his farm, in the southeast quarter of section 6, township 59, range 37, of Forbes Township; Judge George

McIntyre, his brother, who lived on the quarter adjoining on the east, in section 5. John Stephenson, from Indiana, came in 1840. In the same year came Thomas Ramsay, who settled the farm later owned by N. F. Murray and now the property of L. R. Cunningham. About the same period, Joseph Brownlee, from Virginia, settled in the Missouri River bottom. He was the first man to start a steam saw mill within the limits of the township. This was about a mile and a half below the present town of Forbes.

In 1840, also came James Foster, one of the first attorneys admitted to the bar of Holt County. He was born in County Monahan, Ireland, February 18, 1818. In 1837, he came to the United States, and settled in Jefferson City, Missouri. In 1839 he was admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court, at Booneville. In the following year, he moved to Holt County, and settled in Forbes Township, making his office and residence at the Widow Jackson's, where he continued to make his home, till the founding of the town of Oregon, the county seat, when he took up his abode and continued to reside there in the practice of his profession, for many years. His professional standing in the state was high, and his personal popularity great. He represented Holt County in the legislature of 1848-49. A strong sympathizer with the cause of the South, during the period of the rebellion, he moved his residence from Oregon. At the close of the war, he returned, but a few years after again left, moving his residence permanently. In 1841, Felty Worley settled on the farm subsequently owned by J. Huiatt. J. Frank Worley, who came at the same time, assisted in the development of the bottom land. In the same year came Abraham Brown and his sons, E. R. Brown, A. M. Brown and Dr. M. D. Brown, all of whom are dead.

Abraham Brown settled the northwest quarter of section 10, township 59, range 37, in what is now Forbes Township. In that year of his arrival he planted on this farm the first apple orchard ever set out in Holt County. The trees were grafted on crabapple stocks. Josiah Pierce, with his sons, Charles, Lorenzo and Silas, came from Maryland in 1841, and settled in the present Forbes Township. Elias and Benjamin Davidson were also early settlers. Robert Patterson, a large land-owner, who resided on the southwest corner of section 4, in the same township and range, settled there in 1841. William G. Patterson was also an old settler. W. D. Taylor and Squire P. Shambaugh settled in Forbes Township, in 1843. Charles Shambaugh, a brother of the latter, also came about the same time. John and Daniel Huiatt settled in the neighborhood in 1846. George Meyer, the fruit man, came from Lewis Township in 1857, and settled in Forbes Township on the splendid farm in sections seven and eight which was his home for about a quarter of a century. Henry

Clark settled in an early day in a locality in the neighborhood of Nodaway River, known as Cracker's Neck.

FIRST PHYSICIAN.

The first to practice medicine in what is now Forbes Township, was Doctor John C. Norman, the pioneer physician of the county. Previous to the laying out of the town of Oregon, to which he afterwards moved, he made his headquarters and office at the Widow Jackson's tavern.

John M. Briggs, a native of Tennessee, who afterwards moved to Iowa, where he died in 1877, started in 1840, the first blacksmith shop within the limits of what is now Forbes Township. His stand was about six miles southeast of the site of Oregon.

BUILDINGS AND PEOPLE.

The first frame building erected for a residence in the county was put up by John Russel, on what was afterward the George Meyer farm. It was a one-story house, with three or four rooms. The class of citizens who settled in what is now Forbes Township, with a fair share of the roughs and restless characters who float everywhere in the van of civilization, were generally men of enterprise and often persons of substance, for that early day. The descendants of many are living representatives of the best class of the inhabitants of the county.

About the year 1846 organized gangs of outlaws rendered property in horses very unsafe; and, though an eminently law-abiding people, the better class of citizens were reduced to the necessity of associating themselves into companies for the purpose of putting down the source of these outrages. The people inhabiting that section of the county now known as Forbes Township were especially sufferers by these robberies. About one hundred of these organized themselves into a vigilance committee, of which William Thorp was chosen captain and James Craig (later Gen. Graig, of St. Joseph), lieutenant.

For a while it seemed difficult to fix suspicion on any individual. It, however, began to be remarked that a quiet and seemingly inoffensive citizen, by the name of George Carter, who had formerly resided in the neighborhood, occasionally returned to visit his friends; further, that these visits were periodical, and, also, it began to be the subject of remark that, whenever George favored his Holt County friends with a visit, his sympathetic nature was sure to be wounded by hearing, shortly after his arrival, of some of their horses having been stolen. The strangeness of the coincidence soon became the subject of general remark. Suspicion was directed against Carter, and immediately

acted on. He was arrested, tied up and severely whipped. He finally yielded to the pressure of circumstances, and disclosed the whole business, giving the name of an unsuspected accomplice, by the name of Bass, who was forthwith arrested and subjected to the same discipline. The thieves were then given three days in which to leave the county, an injunction with which they promptly complied. This effectually broke up horse-stealing in these parts.

DALLAS.

The first attempt to start a town within the limits of what is now Forbes Township, occurred April 17, 1843, when Abraham Brown laid out the town of Dallas, on the northeast quarter of section 28, township 59, range 37, one mile above the mouth of the Nodaway River. This, though it never in its best days amounted to much of a town, was for many years a noted shipping point, and during certain conditions of the river, when Iowa Point was not readily accessible, served as an entrepot for Oregon. A hemp press and several large warehouses for several years stood on the site of this prospective town. Long before the decadence of the hemp interest in Missouri, it had lost even itse nominal existence, and was only remembered among the things of the past. The only attempt to sell goods in the place was made by James Whitehead, who kept a small store at the landing for about a year. Insignificant as it was, however, Dallas was not too small to provoke rivalry, and a competitor in the prospective town of West Union struggled into an ephemeral existence only, however, to blink out ingoloriously and without a requiem. On the 12th of April, 1844, H. Utt, Henry H. Utt and E. M. Samuel laid out this town. Its location was between Dallas and the mouth of the Nodaway River. Corner lots could not be given away, and while the friends of the would-be founders gloried in the enterprise of these enthusiastic rivals of the Dallas interests, they almost universally condemned their judgment. West Union fell still born, and few now living in or out of the county have any recollection of the prospective existence of such a place.

FORBES.

The third attempt to start a town in the territory of Forbes Township was an enterprise of much later date, and has proved a success. This, the town of Forbes was laid out in 1869, by Levi Devorss, on the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 29, township 59, range 37. Since that period, additions to the original site have been made. As early as 1839, Jonathan Keney pre-empted the quarter on which the town stands. This was, afterwards, entered by Thomas Mulholland,

who, in the early part of 1851, sold it, together with adjacent lands, amounting, with a tract at the same time conveyed by Edward Mulholland, to 290 acres, to Levi Devorss, who had previously resided in Buchanan County, Missouri. The idea of locating a town at this point was prompted by the presence of the Kansas City, St. Joseph & Council Bluffs Railroad (now the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad), which was completed to this point in the summer of 1868, the first train of cars running through the site of the town August 9, 1868. The depot at this point is nineteen miles north by west of St. Joseph; and the elevation of its site is eight hundred and sixty-seven and nearly one-half feet above the level of the sea.

The original house of the town is the farm residence of Levi Devorss, at the foot of the bluff at the north extremity of the village. The first building erected after the laying out of the town was a small store erected by William Herron, on what was afterwards Devorss' addition to the original town. Herron & Taylor sold goods here during the summer in which the road was building. They soon after erected a larger building in which, for the period of three years, they continued to sell goods. The style of the firm was Herron, Taylor & Meyer. W. D. Taylor and George Meyer, both representative citizens and large farmers of the township, were included in this firm. In 1871, W. D. Taylor, in partnership with S. M. Shirley, put up a two-story brick house twenty-six by sixty feet area, in which they opened a stock of goods, and where they continued to transact mercantile business till 1881, when they closed out, and rented the building to John Ross & Co.

In 1876 Shirley & Taylor put up, in the town of Forbes, the first steam flouring mill ever built in the township. It was a frame structure, of considerable extent, and was fitted up with three runs of burrs. This mill was hardly under way before it was accidentally destroyed by fire. About thirty steps beyond was a warehouse, in which was stored a considerable amount of merchandise, also the property of the firm. To this building the fire communicated, and the whole was soon wrapped in flames, involving a total loss of about $7,000.

Ross & Meyer opened, in 1875, a stock of goods in the town, and did a prosperous business till August, 1880, when they closed out.

E. B. Bumps, in 1870, opened the first drug store in Forbes. He continued to sell here till 1877, when he moved from the town.

The first to open a blacksmith shop in the place was John Brownlee.

The first physician to locate in the town was Dr. Jason Bumps, since dead.

The first postmaster of Forbes, or as the office was for many years styled, Elm Grove, was Levi Devorss, the father of the town. He was appointed August 28, 1868. His successors, in regular order, have been: S. M. Shirley, N. Swiget, Jacob Meyer and Charles Scott, appointed in 1881. On the resignation of Meyers, John Ross, his late partner in business, discharged the duties of the office till the appointment of his successor.

EDUCATIONAL.

The people of Forbes have always appreciated the importance of education and encouraged every scheme calculated to promote that interest in their midst. One of their first enterprises was the erection of a school building in 1869. This was a small frame building twenty-two by twenty-four feet area, and was afterward occupied as a dwelling. It was erected by the Rev. Mr. Bloomer, a Protestant Methodist preacher, and cost $560. The first who taught in this school was Lud Wyet. The second teacher was Charles Coursen. He taught two years, from September, 1870, when he was succeeded by William Keizier, who, in turn, was succeeded by William Morrison. The Rev. Mr. Bratcher, of the church of the United Brethren, taught two terms. Al Ewing taught from the fall of 1877 to close of the term. He was succeeded in the fall of 1878, by T. J. Owen, the last who taught in the old school building. In 1878 and 1879 was erected at a cost of three thousand dollars the present elegant structure of the Forbes public school. It is a spacious two-story brick edifice on a commanding elevation overlooking the village, and the wide extent of bottom land stretching far westward to the Missouri River. The first session of the public school opened in this building with Professor A. G. Young, M. D., as principal, assisted by Mrs. Young. In the fall of 1880, Samuel O'Fallon commenced the school. He was assisted by Miss Belle Young. After the Christmas holidays he resigned, and was succeeded by Galen B. Anderson, who taught the school to the close of the term.

THE FORBES POSTOFFICE.

From the Holt County Sentinel's historical library the following concerning the postoffice at Forbes is taken:

Forbes came into existence by reason of the building of the Kansas City, St. Joseph & Council Bluffs Railroad and was given its name in honor of one of the civil engineers who helped locate it. The railroad was completed in 1868 and in the summer of that year Levi Devorss came up from Buchanan County and purchased 290 acres from Edward Mulholland, in August, 1868, and laid out the town. The plat was filed April 3, 1869. On the

28th of August, 1868, the postoffice came into existence, under the name of Elm Grove. Mr. Devorss was the first postmaster, his commission being signed by Alex. W. Randall, then postmaster-general under President Grant. Devorss was followed by S. M. Shirley, N. Swiget, Jacob Meyer, Charles Scott, John Ross and others. A. G. Young was the postmaster in 1885, and was succeeded by J. R. Wilson. Mr. Young again became postmaster in 1889 and was followed by J. M. Ellis, who was succeeded by S. A. Tribble. Miss Cora Evans assumed the duties of the office in 1899. She was succeeded April 1, 1903, by G. T. Metcalf, who served twelve years. A. G. Young took the office again in 1915 and is still in charge.

The office continued as Elm Grove until April, 1903, when the name was changed to Forbes. It became a money order office January 1, 1893. The first rural route was established October 2, 1905. It covers twenty miles and supplies ninety-six families.

BANK.

The growth and development of the town has been steady and substantial. The business houses show the improvements that have been wrought by the modernizing of the civilization of the day. In keeping with their demands it was but natural that the need of a banking institution to meet their requirements should be felt. The Bank of Forbes was chartered October 6, 1906. The capital stock is $10,000 and its working power is increased by a surplus of $5,000, which indicates that it is one of the best managed financial institutions in the county. The officers at the time of organization were W. H. Richards, president; J. E. Taylor, vice-president; J. A. Williams, cashier; Myrtle Williams, assistant cashier. There has been no change in the offices of the bank to the present time (1916).

CHAPTER XX.

HICKORY TOWNSHIP — EARLY SETTLERS — PIONEERS WHO HELPED MAKE HISTORY—SOME OF THE FIRST ENTERPRISES—NEWPOINT, A PROSPEROUS, THRIVING VILLAGE—PIONEER AND PRESENT DAY MERCHANTS—CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS.

On the 17th day of June, 1874, the present municipal division of Holt County, known as Hickory Township, was created. Its limits, which had been previously included in the southern part of Clay and in the northern part of Nodaway Township, are thus described in the record on its organization:

"Commencing at a point where Oiler's Base Line intersects the Nodaway River, thence west on said line to the southwest corner of section 35, township 61, range 38, thence north on section line dividing sections 2 and 3 to the township line dividing townships 61 and 62, thence due east on the township line until it intersects the Nodaway River to the place of beginning—said township to be known as Hickory Township, and place of voting to be Fairview School House."

It is bounded on the north by Clay Township, on the east by Andrew County, from which it is separated by the Nodaway River, on the south by Nodaway and Lewis Townships, and on the west by Benton Township.

EARLY SETTLERS.

We have already stated that the first settlers of Holt County, Peter and Blank Stephenson, arrived in the spring of 1838, and established themselves in what is now Forbes Township, near the present lines of Lewis and Nodaway Townships; and, further, on excellent authority, that on the arrival, with several others, in the fall of the same year, of R. H. Russel, later judge of the Probate Court of Holt County, these two brothers were the only white settlers living west of the Nodaway River. It appears, however, that there is a difference of opinion touching the correctness of the latter statement, it being contended by some that about the period of the arrival of the Stephensons, or immediately subsequent thereto, three brothers by the name of Nickols had crossed the Nodaway and effected a settlement in a locality to which they gave the present accepted name of Nickols' Grove, in the southern part of what is now Hickory Township and extending southward into the northern part of the present Nodaway Township. It is probable that the period elapsing between the arrivals of the two bands of settlers was very brief, and that they were for some time afterwards ignorant of each other's presence in the country.

At some time during the year 1838, it is generally conceded, Robert Nickols, the pioneer, arrived from Virginia and settled on the northeast quarter of section 33, township 61, range 37, near the northeast corner of which now stands the flourishing hamlet of New Point, one of the most prosperous and active business centers of its size in the county. This quarter section is now owned by J. P. Ruhl and others.

NICKOLS' GROVE.

Nickols' Grove, in the immediate vicinity of the village, lies along the waters of Nickols' Creek. The main body of the timber was in the southeast corner of the township and extended, as before stated, into Nodaway Township, to the southward.

These virgin forests which in the early day were a material assistance in supporting the settlers, have long since disappeared and have given place to the corn field, the meadow and the field of waving, golden, ripening grain. That portion of the grove lying in Hickory Township includes an area equivalent to about two and a half square miles, and when first settled abounded in some of the finest specimens of the valuable timber peculiar to this section of country. Most of it has now fallen before the woodman's ax and only an occasional stump remains as a reminder of the early days. Robert Nickols, shortly after induced his brothers, Frank and John, his mother and his brother-in-law, J. Kelley, to move to and settle in this section of country.

John Nickols died of cholera, on his way to California in the early days of the gold fever. Emigration from the older states and settled portions of Missouri flowed to the neighborhood of the Stephenson settlement, six or seven miles farther south, but it was some time before these early settlers of the grove, of whom A. C. Bevan was also one, had any neighbors. In 1840, Isaac Long, from Ohio, settled in the neighborhood. Hiram Schotzer and Zach Winkler, both from Pennsylvania, arrived in the neighborhood and there settled between 1840 and 1845. These both subsequently moved to California. John B. Ish came in an early day to the neighborhood, from Saline County, Missouri, whither he afterwards returned. He settled the magnificent farm adjoining New Point, later owned by the late John G. Cowan, and now owned by the William Kneale estate.

Among others also came Cain Owens, from Kentucky, and Jacob Ham, a Tenesseean, who had come to the settlement from Saline County. Thomas S. Bragg, came to Missouri, in 1845, and purchased a splendid farm west of New Point, which is still owned by his estate. This farm was settled by Hiram Shartzer, in 1843. In the same year, also, came Andrew Pope and Lapsley Embree, from Lincoln County, Kentucky. Daniel

Hudson, from Pulaski County, Kentucky, who died some years ago, was in the early days a well known citizen of Holt County. He came to the neighborhood in 1845. Among other old settlers may be mentioned Michael and James DeBolt, John, Joseph and Noble Hodgins, Robert Morris and Captain Peter Price.

FIRST SCHOOL HOUSE.

The first school house built within the limits of what is now Hickory Township was a rude frame building, erected in the year 1846. It stood on the southeast quarter of section 29, township 61, range 37, on a farm later owned by John G. Cowan, now by the Kneale estate. The first who taught in this building was a man by the name of Elmer, a New Yorker by birth. This primitive temple of the muses has long been numbered with the things of the past, and its memory scarcely survives in the minds of the remaining few who had any knowledge of its existence.

FIRST PREACHER.

The first to preach the gospel in this locality was the Rev. Jacob Bird, of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He began his labors there in 1845. His field was in that early day an extensive one; and, though church edifices by the members of his denomination were early created in other parts of the county, no building was ever put up by them within the bounds of Hickory Township. In that day of sparse population almost any ordinary cabin was sufficiently commodious for the demands of the small congregations who assembled to hear the occasional expounders of the Word; and, as population increased, the shady groves afforded, in the summer season, shelter for the camp meetings which constituted, in that day, a prominent feature in the religious life of the early settlers.

The first of these assemblies to occur in this locality was held in the summer of 1857, on a farm occupying section 32, township 61, range 37, at that time the property of Esquire Bragg. The presiding elder at this meeting was the Rev. Mr. Ashby, assisted by the Rev. W. Naylor, and other itinerant ministers. These assemblies continued for many years after to maintain their popularity. In 1877, 1878 and 1879 largely attended camp meetings were held on section 33, township 61, range 37, in Nickols' Grove.

FIRST PHYSICIAN.

The first physician to locate in the Grove was Dr. Dozier, who settled there in 1845. He was formerly from Andrew County. Previous to that period, however, Dr. Norman, the

pioneer physician of the county, and Dr. W. W. Wittington, from Andrew County, had extended their practice to the settlements in and about Nickols' Grove.

The first blacksmith to pursue his calling in what afterwards became Hickory Township, was Henry Hornecker, a native of Virginia. He commenced business in 1854, in a shop which he had put up on the northwest quarter of section 9, township 61, range 37. Mr. Hornecker was a Southern sympathizer, and, in consequence of his opinions, was assassinated in the spring of 1863.

THE FIRST MILL.

The first mill in the township was a small concern with one pair of burrs, built by John N. Blair, for Robert Nickols, about the year 1839 or 1840. It was a water power, and stood on the northwest quarter of section 34, township 61, range 37, about one-half mile east of the site of the present village of New Point. The only grain ground at this mill was corn. It continued to be operated till 1857. There is now no mill within the limits of Hickory Township.

The first ferry on the Nodaway River which had a landing on the shore of what is now Hickory Township, was established and maintained for several years by a man by the name of Lackey, from Andrew County. The landing of this ferry was on a farm for many years owned by Samuel Praisewater, near the line between the southeast quarter of section 27, and the southwest quarter of section 26, township 61, range 37, about one and one-half miles northeast of the site of the present town of New Point. Henry DeBolt afterwards kept a ferry on the southwest quarter of section 27, township 61, range 37, about one-half mile above the old ferry, before 1860. Both have long passed out of existence.

The first to plant fruit trees in Hickory Township was Thomas S. Bragg, who planted an apple orchard on his farm, which lies in section 32, township 61, range 37, in the immediate neighborhood of New Point. This pioneer orchard, which included about fifty trees, was planted about the year 1847. Some of the finest orchards in the county are now growing in Hickory Township.

The erection of church edifices is a comparatively recent enterprise in Hickory Township, though religious organizations have existed there from the earliest settlement of the county. The first ecclesiastical structure put up in the township was the Dunkard Church, near the southwest corner of the northwest quarter of township 61, range 31, near the west line of the township.

DUNKARD CHURCH.

On the northwest quarter of section 14, township 61, range 38, within the limits of Hickory Township, is a neat frame church building, thirty-five by fifty feet area, with an extension sixteen feet square. This is popularly known as the Dunkard Church. It was built in 1874 by Levi Kauffman and Isaac Zigler, contractors, assisted by other workmen. Its cost was about $1,800. The congregation was organized as a church in February, 1872, with the following members, thirty-six in number: A. J. Correll and wife, Joseph Glick and wife, Jonathan Andes and wife, Isaac Zizler and wife, Joseph Kauffman and wife, Levi Kauffman and wife, William Griffith and wife, James Judy and wife, David Keller and wife, John Shamberger and wife, John H. Miller, Joseph Hilderbrand, Susan Andes, William G. Andes, Jane Parmer, Mary Hilderbrand, Mary Kauffman, Mrs. Susan Glick, Isaac Wampler and wife, Anna Andes and Solomon G. Snell.

This organization was styled Bethel, and the name of the meeting house Bethlehem. Of the above named organizers, in the language of one of their ministers: "Some have gone to their reward while others have moved to other countries, until of the original members few remain identified with the congregation." In May, 1878, the congregation divided, and a large number being in Nodaway County, a church was there organized.

The first election of officers held in Hickory Township occurred November 3, 1874, and resulted in the choice of Thomas Wright and W. S. Allen as justices of the peace, and Robert Hester, constable.

NEW POINT.

The only town and post office in Hickory Township is New Point. It is located near the west side of the northwest quarter of section 33, township 61, range 37. A portion of the village also lies in the east part of the northwest quarter of the same, the half section line passing along the center of the principal street. The south limits of the village extend to the waters of Nickols' Creek, the principal stream of the township. In 1875, in consequence of another of the same name having been previously established, the name of the town and post office, which had originally been called Grant, was changed, and the present style, New Point, was substituted.

L. D. Barnes was the founder and pioneer merchant of the place. He commenced selling goods there in a building which he had erected for that purpose, in 1869. The ground on which the town site is located was then covered with hazel brush and timber. Old timers tell how "Father" Barnes, as he was familiar-

ly known, cleared out a spot large enough for his store and then began building, leaving further clearing of brush and trees for future consideration.

L. D. Barnes was a potential factor in the early history of New Point. He was a plain, honest, upright man who believed that the Golden Rule was enunciated for the guidance of mankind and he lived his life accordingly. He was an active member in the Methodist Church. He continued to sell goods in the store in which he began his business career until 1880, when he sold to his son Clark F. Barnes, who formed a partnership with J. R. Collinson, the style of the firm being Barnes & Collison, under which name the business was continued. Later Levi Oren bought the stock. He sold to his brother Jacob A. Oren and W. J. Sager. The building in which the pioneer merchant did business has been rebuilt and is now a two-story structure, the first floor being occupied by the general merchandise store of George W. Lentz and the second floor by the Odd Fellows lodge.

Shortly after Mr. Barnes founded the first business enterprise in New Point Jerry Stultz started the first blacksmith shop in the place. It was located a few hundred feet north of the Barnes store. Stultz continued to operate the shop until forced to quit on account of old age, about fifteen years ago. The shop and the residence he occupied near it, have long since disappeared.

In 1872 B. F. Chandler started a blacksmith shop, which he operated until 1874 when he sold to John B. Coffin, who still owns it although he retired from the active management of the business several years ago.

The first shop devoted to wagon making and general wood work was started by James Barnes in 1871. He sold to his brother Clark F. Barnes in 1876, who continued the business until 1880, when he retired to engage in the mercantile business. Barnes sold to E. S. McDonald who turned the business over to V. L. Graham in 1888. For a time New Point was without a wagon shop. A few years ago John A. Lentz revieved the industry, but in a more modern form. His plant is equipped with present day machinery of all kinds, being provided with facilities for handling automobile work in all its branches.

In 1871 B. F. Winslow, originally from the state of Indiana, established the first drug store in the town. He sold out in 1887 to H. B. Williams, who later moved the stock away. V. L. Graham carried a stock of drugs for a time.

The first boot and shoe shop in the village was started by Davis Brodbeck in 1878. He was succeeded by Henry Armack, after whom came William Kunkel, who continued at the trade until a few years ago when the infirmities of age compelled him to quit.

In 1876 Aaron Cole opened a stock of general merchandise. The following year he sold to his brother George W. Cole, who continued the business until 1880, when the stock was purchased by A. Swartz, a native of Ohio. A few years later Swartz sold to V. L. Graham, who came to New Point from Forest City. He is now a resident of California.

Frederick Meister and Ulrich Burger, started, in 1875, a tinner's shop, which was equipped to manufacture practically anything in this line used by farmer or town dweller. Tinware utensils in those days were mostly made in the small town shops. Meister & Burger also carried a stock of general merchandise. The building in which they began business was afterward occupied by J. C. Eckhart & Brother. E. V. Agler now conducts a general merchandise store at this location.

G. W. Cole, John Lentz, E. S. McDonald and Edwin Painter were carpenters and builders in the early days.

The first physician to locate in New Point was Dr. William Parrish, who came in 1871. He moved away in 1874 and was succeeded by Dr. Bryson, who in turn was succeeded by Dr. Reeves. He was followed by Dr. W. E. Burch, who practiced medicine in New Point and the surrounding county for several years. In 1880 Dr. James A. Ashworth and Dr. J. R. Kearney ministered to the needs of the sick. They moved away and Dr. W. J. Findley opened an office here in 1886. Later Dr. E. F. Kearney, son of Dr. J. F. Kearney, practiced his profession here for several years, as did Dr. J. C. Whitsell, now located in St. Joseph.

In 1874 Mrs. John P. Ruhl started a millinery establishment which she conducted for many years. The following year her husband, in an adjoining room began selling merchandise. Several years later he was associated with William Coburn. Mr. Ruhl now conducts a store a short distance east of the one he started in 1872.

SCHOOLS.

No section of Holt County gives more attention to educational matters than New Point. From an early day to the present the schools here have ranked with the best. For many years the youngsters gained their knowledge of the three R's and the higher branches in a frame school building about three-quarters of a mile northwest of the townsite, known as the Cowan school. While graded schools were unknown in the rural districts at that time the standard of excellence maintained was such that pupils were allowed to enter high schools in various parts of the country without further preparation.

In 1887 a new building was erected in New Point. It was

provided with the best facilities known to educators at that time. But later it was found inadequate to all the needs of the children. In 1912 an additional room was built and provision made for teahing the ninth and tenth grades.

CHURCHES.

New Point contains two of the neatest and most elegantly appointed country churhes in the state. One is the property of the Presbyterian denomination. The building is a gothic frame, thirty feet front by forty-five feet deep, and is crowned with a belfry. The windows are of stained glass of elegant design, and the whole presents a very attractive appearance. The interior appointments of the church are even more elaborate than the external finish, and are strikingly neat and harmonious in their proportions. The edifice was completed in October, 1877, at a cost of about two thousand dollars, largely through the liberal aid of John G. Cowan, who donated the ground on which it stands.

New Point Presbyterian Church was first organized in Cowan's School House, near New Point, on the 2d day of September, 1872, and styled Hope Church. The Rev. Robert Cruikshanks, D. D., conducted the organization, and preached the first sermon. The Rev. N. H. Smith, first pastor of the congregation was also present. The following members composed the original organization: John G. Cowan and Mary E. Cowan, his wife, B. O. Cowan, Mrs. Elizabeth Gresham, John Meyer and wife, V. L. and Hannah Graham, William and Sarah Coburn, and Samuel G. Park. The first officers elected were Elders John G. Cowan and John Meyer. The congregation continued to worship in Cowan's School House, from the period of their organization in 1872, up to the completion of the church edifice in New Point in October, 1877. In November, 1877, the dedication services of the church were conducted by the Rev. Duncan Brown, of Mound City. The pastors in charge of the church from its origin to the present time have been as follows: Rev. N. H. Smith, September, 1872; Rev. J. O. Pierce, June, 1876; Rev. George Miller, October, 1876; Rev. E. E. Williamson, D. D., January, 1882; Rev. T. D. Roberts, December, 1882-April, 1890; Rev. S. G. Fisher, August, 1890-January 1, 1892; Rev. Willis Weaver, June, 1892-January 1, 1894; Frank Connor (Student), May. 1894-October, 1894; Rev. A. B. Byram, November, 1894-April, 1895; Rev. C. P. Blayney, October, 1895-October, 1896; Rev. Willis Weaver, January 1, 1897-April, 1897; Rev. W. E. Caldwell, July, 1897-July, 1903; Rev. H. P. Alexander, March, 1904-May, 1906; Rev. T. D. Roberts, July 7, 1906.

The parsonage was built in the fall of 1906.

The Christian Church in New Point was first organized at

the Fairview school house in February, 1869, by Elders George W. Rau and George H. Webster. The first elders were Thomas G. Denny and J. B. Denny, and Hiram E. Denny was clerk. The charter members were: Thomas G. Denny and wife, J. J. Denny, J. B. Denny, H. E. Denny, Mrs. J. W. Davis, Mrs. Joseph Hodgins, Mrs. Ruth Hill, Mrs. John Hodgins and Michael Cochran.

Following the organization of the church Elder William Trapp became pastor. He was succeeded by Elder J. W. Tate in 1871. Then came Dr. J. W. Stone of Oregon, W. H. Hardman, W. A. Gardner, W. F. Waite, H. P. Tandy, W. H. Hallum, Anthony Hardman, Jerry Devore and Wes Hardman.

The congregation moved to what was known as the Union church in 1894. This church was built by the members of several congregations and used jointly by them. It is located due north of New Point about three miles and is still used for religious gatherings.

In August, 1895, a meeting was held at which it was decided that the Christian church should build its own church-home in New Point. A committee consisting of A. Hardman, Daniel Hardman, Robert Cain, Jacob A. Oren and Edwin E. Davis was appointed to take charge of the work. The necessary funds were provided, plans made and the building completed before the end of that year. The structure was destroyed by fire caused by lightning in the spring of 1896 and was at once rebuilt. The first building was dedicated by Elder W. S. Connor, December 15, 1895, and the second by Elder B. S. Denny of Des Moines, Iowa, in September, 1896.

The first regular pastor was Elder M. McFarland in 1895. He was succeeded by Elders H. P. Tandy, Dew, A. Hardman, H. W. Hardman, Law, Dry, John A. Wesley, W. H. Leonard, Fred Augustine, R. A. Thompson, Edward Clutter, B. H. Dawson. The present resident minister is Elder H. R. Murphy. The membership is now 104 and the church officers are F. A. Crawford, E. V. Agler and C. W. Brooks. Of the charter members who assisted in the organization of the church in 1869 only Mrs. J. W. Davis and Mrs. Joseph Hodgins are living.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows has an active, prosperous organization in New Point. Its membership includes many of the progressive men of the community, men who have attained prominence in the work of the order. The lodge was organized February 14, 1893. The first officers were Harry Dillon, N. G.; Jacob Rayhill, V. G.; J. A. Oren, Treasurer; N. L. Pierce, Secretary; J. A. Oren, Robert Cain and B. F. Kunkel,

Trustees. There were thirty-three members at the initial meeting. The present membership is ninety-eight. The present officers are: John Kramer, N. G.; Charles Kurtz, V. G.; Ralph Meyer, Treasurer; E. E. Davis, Secretary; Lafayette Kunkel, Jesse Cain and B. J. Hilley, Trustees. The lodge owns the two story business house in which George W. Lentz conducts a general store, and one acre of ground.

TELEPHONE.

The Farmers Mutual Telephone Company of New Point was organized in 1903. Charles Cowan was president and James Morris, secretary at that time. The installation of telephones in farm houses throughout the surrounding country was begun at once and the enterprise has enjoyed a steady growth from its inception. The company has 114 subscribers and its investment is estimated at $10,000. The present officers are James Morris, president and Thomas Cain, secretary. The switch board has connections with the principal towns in the county as well as excellent long distance connections.

WATER.

Hickory Township is a well watered, sufficiently timbered, and an excellently improved district of the county. The principal streams of the township are Nickols' Creek and Hickory Creek. The former at one time was a stream of occasionally sufficient volume to afford mill power. This stream debouches into Nodaway River, near the northwest corner of the southeast quarter of section 27, township 61, range 37. Nearly parallel with this, and about two miles north, is Hickory Creek, flowing also in a southeasterly course, and emptying into the Nodaway River on the southeast quarter of section 22, township 61, range 37. The mouth of this stream is about three-fourths of a mile due north of Nickols' Creek, and about one mile by the winding of the river. Hog Creek, in the extreme northern part of Hickory Township flows in an easterly direction towards the Nodaway. At one time it formed a swamp or lake near the banks of that stream, and known as Lovelady Lake. Kimsey Creek rises in the northwestern part of Hickory Township, in section 11, township 61, range 38, and flows about two miles south and west into Benton Township. Innumerable springs and spring branches abound, affording ample stock water in all parts of the township.

SHORT HORNS.

John G. Cowan was the pioneer short horn breeder of the Platte Purchase, and at one time the owner of several valuable

farms in Holt County, resided in the immediate vicinity of New Point. His home place, which included 617 acres, is one of the best improved in the country. In the fall of 1842, he moved from Kentucky, his native state, to Lafayette County, Missouri; thence, in 1843, to Andrew County, Missouri. In 1858, he settled in the neighborhood of Graham, in Nodaway County. In March, 1866, he moved to Holt and settled in what is now Hickory Township, on the farm formerly owned by John B. Ish. In 1868, Mr. Cowan made his first importation of short horn cattle from Kentucky. The year previous to this he had imported a short horn bull from Illinois. In 1870 he brought fifteen head of these cattle from Ohio.

In 1872 he purchased for the sum of three thousand dollars of William Warfield, of Lexington, Kentucky, the celebrated bull, Loudon Duke the Sixth. From this pioneer herd the short horn breed of cattle soon spread over every part of Holt County. T. S. Bragg and Allen T. Bloomer were also breeders of short horns in Hickory Township in the early days.

THE LACKEY ROAD.

The Lackey road, which ran through Hickory Township, was that part of a main traveled highway, which led from Jackson's Point (now Mound City) to Lackey's Ferry, on the Nodaway, and was on the line of the great thoroughfare leading from St. Joseph to Council Bluffs. Lackey's Ferry was established by Andrew Lackey, and was later called the Thraikill Ferry, and subsequently the Praisewater Ferry. Lackey afterwards located a short distance below the ferry and established a trading post and saloon, which was frequented by nearly all the trappers who ranged through the upper country.

CHAPTER XXI.

LEWIS TOWNSHIP ONE OF THE FIRST SETTLED IN THE COUNTY—ITS EXTENT IN THE EARLY DAYS—PRESENT BOUNDARIES—THE TOWN OF OREGON, THE COUNTY SEAT OF HOLT COUNTY—EARLY AND LATER DAY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES—CHURCHES, SCHOOLS AND INDUSTRIES.

BOUNDARIES.

One of the two original divisions of Holt County is Lewis Township, organized at the April term of 1841, and described in the records as follows: "Beginning at the middle of the main channel of the Missouri River, where the range between thirty-seven and thirty-eight intersects said river; thence north to the northern boundary line of this county; thence west to the High Bridge Creek; thence down said creek to the Missouri River; thence down the Missouri River to the place of beginning.

It thus appears that the original limits of Lewis Township included besides its present territory, a portion of Forbes, one-half of Hickory and of Clay Townships, and all that territory included within the area of what is now Bigelow, Benton, Liberty, Union, Lincoln, Minton and Forest Townships, including about four-fifths of the present area of the county, as well as the greater part of Atchison County, and extending ten miles within the southern limits of the state of Iowa.

In May, 1841, occurred the first election in Holt County. This election resulted in the choice of the following officers in Lewis Township: John Gibson and Gallatin Adkins, justices of the peace, and John Lewis, constable.

The organization, August 9, 1842, of Benton Township, by which the base line run by Oiler, surveyor of public lands, was made its southern boundary reduced the territory of Lewis Township materially. The formation of Minton and Forest Townships in 1894 again reduced the size of Lewis Township. Its boundaries in 1916 are as follows: On the north a distance of four miles by Benton and Hickory Townships; on the east by Nodaway and Forbes Townships, ten and a half miles; on the south two miles by Forbes Township; on the southwest a distance of about two miles by the state of Kansas, from which it is separated by the Missouri River, and on the west a distance of nine miles by Forest Township.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.

The physical aspect of Lewis Township presents an interesting diversity of surface. For the most part the country is a

rich, rolling farm land, capable of growing a great variety of crops. It is doubtful if there is anywhere in the United States a territory of equal extent that is adapted to the growing of a larger number of cereals and fruits that Lewis Township, Holt County, Missouri.

Roughly speaking the bluffs along the Missouri bottom separate Lewis Township from Forest Township on the west. Therefore there is practically little bottom land in Lewis Township. When man first began to make himself a home in the territory now embraced in Lewis Township there was a rather luxuriant growth of timber of various kinds, much of which was of value for building and other purposes. Most of it was suitable for fuel and until the last few years cord wood was a staple product on the local market. But times are changing and now the average householder is too busy to saw wood, even if it were plentiful as of yore. But even though a man is disposed to get a little physical culture on a wood pile he is deprived of the privilege, because there is practically no wood to saw. It has disappeared along with many other things which the pioneers enjoyed. The timbered tracts have long since given place to the well cultivated fields of the prosperous farmer.

Mill Creek, a considerable stream, which rises in the northeast quarter of section 24, township 60, range 38, flows in a southwesterly direction, a distance by its meanderings of fourteen or fifteen miles, into the lower bed of the Little Tarkio, which it enters in the northwest quarter of section 9, township 59, range 38, and thus affords running water in the old forsaken bed of Little Tarkio from a point about two and a half miles below Forest City. In many places the old bed of this stream is filled up, and, in wet seasons, occasions disastrous overflows.

On the 20th of March, 1866, Lewis Township was divided, for the convenience of election purposes, into East and West Lewis precincts. This dividing line commenced at a point on the northern line of the township where the line between sections four and five intersects the northern line, and extends due south eight and a half miles, to the Missouri River, which it reaches between sections 20 and 21.

EARLY SETTLEMENTS.

Reference has already been made in the chapter on Forbes Township to the fact that while the first two white men who settled in Holt, happened to locate within the present limits of the last mentioned division of the county, the second arrivals, who appeared in the fall of the same year, also selected that vicinity, which being in a neighborhood cornering on the present townships of Nodaway and Lewis, the two latter townships were among the earliest to receive population from emigration.

The first white man to settle within the present limits of Lewis Township was R. H. Russel, for many years judge of the Probate Court of Holt County. To the arrival of his brother and other settlers in the fall of 1838, reference is made in the chapter on Forbes Township. Early in the spring of 1838 R. H. Russel started on a steamboat from his early home in Indiana bound for the Platte Purchase. He had sent his horse by land with his brother who, accompanied by the members of his family, the Sterretts, and one or two others, had started by land with ox and mule teams. He had, however, a new saddle which as a matter of safety, he concluded to bring with him. Before he arrived at his destination, however, this was stolen by some one who had left the boat at some intervening landing. In due time he reached Liberty Landing, in Clay County, with very few dollars in his pockets, and eager for any employment with the prospect of pay.

Young and unsophisticated, and with little knowledge of the world, he undertook a job of excavating a cellar, at a stipulated price for the entire work. When he had accomplished this task he discovered that, outside of his board, his compensation amounted to about twenty-five cents per day. He then concluded to try farming, and went to work to raise a crop of corn on the property of a large land holder by the name of Hawkins. In this he met with better success. By the time he had plowed his corn for the last time, the proprietor, pleased with the industry and intelligence manifested by his young renter, offered him, at a good salary, the position of overseer of his plantation.

Russel, however, had started for the Land of Promise, and did not propose to stop short of his destination. He declined the complimentary offer of his friend, and, leaving his crop to ripen, bent his course northward. On starting, he managed to purchase, on credit, at the rate of twenty-five cents per gallon, two barrels of whisky. Borrowing the running gear of an antiquated wagon, he fitted it up with two or three loose boards, and, loading on his whisky, started on his hundred-mile trip through the wilderness to the new settlement in Holt County. On his way up, he reached the neighborhood of the trading point of Robidoux, now St. Joseph, and halted a short distance below the landing, at a shanty in which a man by the name of Hall had a stock of furs and pelts.

Young Russel was the owner of an antiquated bull's eye silver watch, to which the proprietor of this establishment taking a fancy, he gave him for the same four good buffalo robes, which he afterwards sold for five dollars each. On reaching Ellington's Ferry on the Nodaway River, not being far from his destination, Russel met a man by the name of John Spence and his brother who together promptly made him an offer of one dollar per gallon for his whisky if he would transport it to

Jeffrey's Point on the Missouri River. This offer he accepted, and, heading towards the point, via the "Big Springs," now Banks' Spring, below Forest City, he delivered his freight and starting back with his money, by evening, reached the neighborhood of his new home where the rest of his party had already arrived.

This was early in the fall of 1838. About the beginning of winter, he returned with several of his friends and the necessary wagons for moving his corn. By the time they had gathered the crop and started homeward, the month of January had arrived; snow was on the ground and the weather was intensely cold. They succeeded in crossing three of their wagons on the flatboat ferry. The fourth, however, proved too weighty for the frail bark, and the entire load was precipitated into the waters of the Nodaway, after having been safely transported a distance of nearly one hundred miles. In the darkness of the night, amid the bewildering snow of the wilderness, R. H. Russel lost his way, and, halting his jaded team, as well in apprehension of wandering from his destination as in consideration of their condition, he passed in the woods a night of no triffling suffering, to find, by the morning light, that he was but three miles from his home, which he lost no time in reaching.

The farm settled by this pioneer of Lewis Township was in section 12, township 59, range 38. The land is now owned by Sarah Conn. Here he put up a rude cabin of small logs or, rather, poles.

Among the early pioneers referred to as arriving in the fall of 1838, was James Kee, also from Indiana, a man who met with a sudden and accidental death, under very peculiar circumstances. Kee was a noted bee and deer hunter, and generally kept his neighbors in meat and honey. For some time after his arrival, he shared with R. H. Russel the pole cabin erected by the latter on the above-mentioned spot. Hunting, which he made his business, was his delight, and the house was always well stocked with deer meat, and with wild honey, which they kept in a large trough hewn out of a linden log.

Before the close of the first decade of this liberal-hearted pioneer in the west, he was summoned to his last account. In the winter of 1848, while at Grand Island, Nebraska, on his way to the war, with his company, then under the command of Captain, afterwards General Craig, of St. Joseph, Kee started out in company with Alexander Boyles, an intimate and particular friend, to have, as it subsequently proved, his last hunt. Mistaking him for a turkey, in the gloom and distance, Boyles shot, and instantly killed his friend. He was overwhelmed with grief at the result of the terrible accident, and long mourned the disastrous consequences of his last hunt. He resided in Oregon, in

this county, many years after his return from the war, and finally moved to California, where he died.

By the spring of 1839, the population began to gather in, and the beauty and fertility of this portion of the county soon attracted settlers. Among others came H. G. Noland, afterwards judge of the County Court, Roland Burnett, Larkin Packwood, Judge John Gibson, James Crowley, from Clay County, Missouri, Thomas Crowley, Jacob Martin, William Thorp, John Thorp, Owen Thorp, the Rev. Dr. G. B. Thorp, of the Hardshell Baptist Church, the first minister of the gospel to locate within the limits of Holt County, Isaac Massey, Valentine Worley, commonly called "Pelty Worley," Daniel Sipes, B. B. Grisby, Alexander Boyles, Eli Asher, Daniel Hahn, Col. John W. Kelly, the first attorney admitted to practice at the Holt County Bar, William Banks, Judge Samuel Watson, Henry Watson, William Zook, S. C. Collins, for twenty years county surveyor, Michael May, Felix Frelich, since dead, the original winegrower and first man to make wine in the county, William Cook, Richard Hahn, A. Gemeker, Andrew Meyer, Sr., who, with a numerous family settled here in 1843 and Henderson Pinkston.

Judge John Stewart, who was on the county bench from 1842 to 1845 was one of the earliest settlers of the county, and put up the first blacksmith shop ever started within its limits. This was in 1839. His stand was at what was in those days known as the Big Spring, on the southwest quarter of section 4, township 59, range 38, about two and a half miles southwest of Oregon, and the same distance southeast of the site of the present town of Forest City.

Of the original settlers who came to the county in 1838, two survived the others several years. They were Judge R. H. Russell and Roland Burnett, who in the after years of their lives were residents of Oregon.

THE PIONEER SCHOOL.

The early settlers of Holt County seem to have been fully alive to the importance of educating their children, and steps in that direction were early instituted, Lewis Township enjoying the distinction of being the first to inaugurated within her limits an enterprse of this character.

In the fall of 1839, Jeremiah Garner began to teach the first school opened in Holt County. This was in a log cabin, 14x16 feet in extent, and built by R. H. Russel for a residence, a very rude and primitive structure. It was located on the southwest corner section 12, township 59, range 38, three and a half miles southeast of Oregon. Population, in that early day, was sparse, and the entire school included the children of John Rus-

sel, Thomas Crowley, James Crowley, G. B. Thorp and John Sterrett. With the influx of population, this temporary shelter soon gave way to more extensive and better appearing buildings, and perhaps more cultivated teachers, but to Jeremiah Garner undoubtedly belongs the distinction of being the pioneer teacher of Holt County. He met with a sudden and violent death in 1845, by being struck over the head with a spade or pick, in the hands of a man with whom he was working the road.

FIRST CHURCH.

The first church built in Holt County was erected in 1843, by the Hard Shell Baptists. It was a rude frame structure, and stood on section 36, where the west line of the southeast quarter crosses Mill Creek, in township 60, range 38, about two and a half miles southeast of the town of Oregon, and within the present limits of Lewis Township. The building has long since disappeared. The members of the congregation at the organization of this church were Judge James Kimsey and wife, Judge James Adkins and wife, Rev. Dr. G. B. Thorp, Abraham Brown, and Ethelbert Brown. The wives of the above were also among the original members, as was also Mrs. Margaret Stephenson. John and Daniel Baldwin were also enrolled with the original organizers of the church. The Rev. Dr. G. B. Thorp, the pastor of this church, was the first local preacher ever established in Holt County. He began his labors in 1841, and continued a period of thirty years, up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1871. He was also a practitioner of medicine.

In 1858 the organization moved to the town of Oregon, where they erected for a place of worship a brick building.

The first physician to locate in the county was Dr. Norman, who came to Lewis Township at an early day.

THE FIRST DISTILLERY.

The first distillery in the county was estalished probably as early as 1840, if not before, by Daniel Sipes, Sr., the father of Buck Sipes, whose narrow escape from the conflagration of a lightning-stricken building is fully detailed in the sketch of Oregon. This distillery was located in Lewis Township, near the north line of the southeast quarter of section 13, township 59, range 38. Ten years after its erection, all traces of the building had disappeared.

FIRST POST OFFICE.

The first post office established in Holt County was located in Lewis Township, Judge R. H. Russel was the first postmaster

appointed. This was in 1839. He kept the office which was known by the name and style of "Thorp's Mill," in a hewed log house, which he had erected on his farm, in section 12, about two hundred yards from the old log cabin, which he had put up on his first arrival in the country, and in which, in the following year, he had allowed Uriah Garner to start the pioneer school of the county, as before stated. Russel was also the contractor for carrying the mail to Savannah, in Andrew County. This he did once a week. The mail bag was never very weighty. Four letters were considered a heavy mail, and such a thing as a newspaper passing over the route was unheard of. Postage in those days was twenty-five cents on a single letter. The post office continued to be maintained here till the town of Oregon started, in 1842, when Judge Russel appointed William Zook, Sr., who had just opened the first store in that town, to act as his deputy, and without any other warrant or authority the office was moved to Oregon.

PIONEER MERCHANTS.

Of George and Augustus Borchers, the first to engage in mercantile business in the county, mention is made in the chapter on Forbes Township, where their store was located. The third person to sell goods within the limits of Holt County, also began in Lewis Township. This was Daniel Zook, Sr., who, in the fall of 1841, came from Ohio. He sold a few goods in a house on a farm near the present town of Curzon, and included in the southeast quarter of section 15, township 59, range 38, on the waters of Little Tarkio Creek, about three and a half miles south of the site of the present town of Oregon. He remained here a very short time, when he returned home. Arriving again, in the spring of 1842, he built on the site of the town of Oregon, the first house ever erected in the place, as especially referred to under the head of Oregon.

THE FLOAT BRIDGE.

As early as 1839 there was built across the Little Tarkio, on the southwest corner of section 15, township 59, range 38, a rather remarkable crossing of the road extending between the Thorp settlement, in the eastern part of Lewis Township, and Hetrick's Landing, on the Missouri River, the oldest established thoroughfare in the county. The latter point, which was in section 20, township 59, range 38, has long since disappeared by the encroachments of the Missouri. This crossing was known for several years as the "Float Bridge," and was so designated from the circumstance that it rested on floating logs, attached to each other and secured by fastenings to either bank. The little Tarkio, in those days a deep, bold stream, was at this point not

less than sixty feet wide, with a depth, at low water stage, varying from four to six feet. William Hetrick and his brother Joseph had a small trading post at this landing, their stock in trade consisting chiefly of whisky, which they sold surreptitiously to the Indians. It was for a time an entrepot for Oregon, and goods were hauled from the boats which landed here to that locality, as well as to neighboring stores.

A REMARKABLE GROVE.

One of the most remarkable natural features of Lewis Township in early times was an extensive grove of the Populus Tremula, or quaking-aspen, said to be the only sight of the kind in the state, or, indeed west of the Mississippi River. This grove was about a mile and a half southeast of Oregon. It was chiefly on the farm of James L. Allen, in the northeast quarter of section 2, township 59, range 38, near the waters of Mill Creek, but extended considerably beyond it. The grove, which was a spontaneous growth, covered an area of about twenty acres, and, in the season of foliage was a truly singular and beautiful sight. The trees, which appeared to be of uniform shape, a characteristic resulting, perhaps, from the denseness of the growth, suggested the idea of a gigantic cane-brake. One of the striking peculiarities of these trees was the silvery appearance of the bark of even the largest and oldest among them, most of which seem to range from sixty to eighty feet in height. The aspen is a graceful tree when growing in solitary contrast to more familiar timber, but viewed in a dense mass, like this grove, it is as strikingly beautiful as it is novel. The bark of the aspen was considered by many to possess certain valuable medicinal properties, and the fame of this celebrated grove, at one time, drew those who esteem the remedy, from remote districts of Nebraska and Iowa in quest of the healing cuticle. It is estimated that the average yield of this grove, if cut down, would be, at least, forty cords of wood to the acre.

ROAD FROM OREGON TO FOREST CITY.

Among the important improvements of Lewis Township is the dirt road extending in a bee line, east and west, between Oregon and Forest City, a distance from the railroad depot in the latter town, to the streets of the former, of two and a half miles. The distance on this road between the corporate limits of the two towns is about a mile and three-fourths. This road, which is the result of some very heavy grading, was built in 1874 at a cost of five thousand dollars, and was one of the best constructed in the country at that time. Its Oregon terminus is two hundred and thirty-five and one-half feet higher than the site of the depot in Forest City.

MILLS IN LEWIS TOWNSHIP.

The first mill built within the limitws of what is now Lewis Township was the first put up in Holt County. It was, in its day, known as Thorp's Mill, and was operated by water power. It stood on the waters of Mill Creek on the northeast quarter of section 2, township 59, range 38, about two and a half miles southeast of the town of Oregon, on a farm for many years owned by W. H. Sterrett. William Thorp, who, in 1844, built this pioneer structure, came from Clay County, Missouri. He later moved to the state of Oregon, where he died at an advanced age. About the period of the Mexican War he sold out to Judge R. H. Russel and others, who, in turn, sold the mill to William Hobson, Sr. It was for years after a noted institution in this section of the country. It finally fell to the possession of John Deffenbaugh, and was long known as the Deffenbaugh Mill.

The mill was originally fitted up with one run of burrs. As it grew in importance another run was added, and was latterly propelled by a Leffel Turbine Wheel. A pool below the dam, which collected the water for this mill, was for many years used by different Christian denominations of the vicinity for baptismal purposes. Its establishment, in 1841, was an era in the history of the county. For three years prior to that period residents of that pioneer settlement were under the necessity of going to mill to Weston, a distance of sixty miles, and often as far as Liberty, in Clay County, one hundred miles distant. Hence originated the common saying of that day, "One hundred miles to mill." The machinery was moved from this mill about 1875.

The second mill erected in Lewis Township was built, in an early day, by Samuel Foster, Sr., and was known as Foster's Mill. It was originally a log house, but afterwards rebuilt of frame. It stood on the east fork of Mill Creek. The machinery was moved out, and the mill abandoned about the close of the year 1874. It had become the property of T. W. Collins, who sold the machinery and building to J. L. Gomel, of Whig Valley. The elevated stone foundation and decaying frame super structure of this mill stood for many years a monument to the enterprise of a hustling pioneer.

Samuel Watson's Carding Machine and Fulling Mill was built in 1846, on the waters of Mill Creek, which supplied the power of the machinery. It stood on the southwest quarter section 36, township 60, range 38, about two miles southeast of Oregon. For many years this mill did an extensive business, commanding a large trade with portions of Atchison, Nodaway and Andrew Counties. In consequence of the steady decrease in the supply of water in the creek the site was abandoned, and in 1862 the machinery of the factory was transferred to Oregon, and set up in a building in that town, as mentioned in our notice

of the manufacturing interests of that place. There are few changes in the general aspect not only of the county, but of the entire Purchase, more remarkable than the present absorption of streams that were, in an early day, of sufficient volume to afford motive power to machinery, and the stranger is surprised to learn that, on the road leading from Forest City to Oregon, and about half a mile from the latter place, there was built, in 1845, on the southwest corner of setcion 27, township 60, range 38, on Clark's Branch, a grist mill, turned by the water of that now feeble and often scarcely visible stream. This mill was built by Russel Turney, with an undershot wheel, and operated by him for many years, though it had been numbered with the things of the past long prior to the Civil War. The mill house was a two-story uilding, fairly appointed. S. C. Collins, a pioneer and for upwards of twenty years surveyor of the county, speaks of having grist ground at this mill, which, in its day, did a good business.

Russel Turney also afterwards built a saw-mill on Kimsey Creek on the southeast quarter of section 19, township 60, range 38, one mile above Forest City. This he operated from the time of its completion in 1850 till the breaking out of the war in 1861. As early as 1854, Daniel Kunkel had built on Kimsey Creek, on the northwest quarter of section 9, township 60, range 38, a saw-mill, which was turned by the water of this stream.

About ten years prior to this, P. Jackson had a saw-mill on the same creek. This was also a water-power mill, and stood on the southeast quarter of section 18, township 60, range 38. These are all numbered with the things of the past. Martin Lewis' saw-mill, built in 1856, stood on the northeast quarter of section 3, township 59, range 38. It has long since disappeared. The site of the mill was later owned by John Weis.

In the same year Samuel Hahn built a steam-power saw-mill on a slough in the southeast quarter of section 21, township 59, range 28. The boiler of this mill exploded, and the mill took fire and burned down before the war.

On the southeast quarter of section 4, township 59, range 38, about two and a half miles southwest of Oregon, on Mill Creek, and about three-quarters of a mile below the site of the Martin Lewis saw-mill, stood the old Scott mill, built by George Scott, in 1849, and long since numbered with the things of the past. It was, in its day, one of the most important institutions of its kind in this section of country, and as late as 1858, was in full operation, with six run of burrs, four saws, four looms, one spinning-jack, one picker, four carders and condensers, with fulling mill, scouring and shearing machinery. The portable steam saw-mill of a more recent day, however, superceded the waning power of water-fall in the gradually and steadily dimin-

ishing streams, and a corresponding degree of power being required to operate the larger woolen mills, they in turn, were moved from the failing water courses and subjected to the power of steam. Daniel Hahn built and operated, before the war, a saw-mill on the southwest quarter of section 3, township 59, range 38. This, in common with many others, has long since disappeared.

Philander Johnson built, in 1857, a grist-mill on Little Tarkio, on the northeast quarter of section 9, township 60, range 39. After the Civil war a steam saw-mill was added. Both mills have long since disappeared. Van Camp's steam saw-mill, on the southeast quarter of section 15, township 60, range 37, was operated as late as 1882.

Of the enterprises of this kind which survived the adversities of early days should be mentioned the Kunkel Mills, located on the North Fork of Mill Creek, on the southeast quarter of section 26, township 60, range 38, one-half mile east of the town of Oregon. The original building, which was erected by Daniel Kunkel in 1850, was a frame structure on a stone foundation. The extensive brick addition was put up during the war. The works included a flouring mill and woolen factory. The firm was known at first by the name and style of Daniel Kunkel & Sons. Each member owned a third interest in the concern. This was one of the institutions of Northwest Missouri, and reckoned as one of its most important enterprises.

The woolen factory and grist mill had an area of thirty-six by ninety-eight feet. It was built on a stone basement eleven feet high. The superstructure, chiefly of brick, consisted of two full stories with a hip story, constituting, in all, four floors. This building cost, with the machinery with which it was supplied, upwards of twenty-five thousand dollars. The engine and boiler were built to order for Kunkel's factory. These were shipped in through cars from the place of manufacture to Forest City and transported by means of heavy ox teams, to the mill premises. The boiler and engine each weighed four tons, and the smoke stack, etc., four more, making the entire weight about 20,000 pounds. The engine had one hundred and ten horse power and was one of the largest and most powerful ever brought to the Upper Missouri Valley, and cost, including transportation, about four thousand dollars.

The cloth factory was fitted up with one broad Crompton loom for double width cloth, and four narrow looms. These operated in all three hundred and sixty spindles, and turned out on an average one hundred and twenty-five yards of cloth daily.

This factory was first established in 1863, and proved, at the time, one of the successful enterprises of the county. It prospered for many years, but finally yielded to the competition of

larger cities. The disinclination of the farmers to produce wool had its effect on the fortunes of this mill. It discontinued operations in 1882. The machinery was bought by Daniel Kunkel, Jr., who sold it in 1888 to North Dakota parties who moved it away. The flour mill attached to this institution was at first operated by water power, using an overshot wheel twenty-five feet in diameter. In the summer of 1881, the growing uncertainty of water supply induced the substituting of steam in its steam. It was fitted up with four run of burrs and one pair of rolls, making it equivalent to a five run mill. It had besides, all the appliances of a first class mill with a grinding capacity of many thousand pounds per day of flour, of which it turned out an excellent quality.

In 1888 the interests of the other members of the partnership were purchased by Gideon Kunkel, who continued to operate the plant until 1901, when it was moved by him to Anadarko, Okla.

Daniel Kunkel, Sr., founder of this one time noted mill, after retiring from the activities of the management of the property, spent his declining years on his farm immediately east of the mill. He made an artificial lake and attained considerable prominence as a breeder of German carp and other fish. He was an inventor of note, the majority of the present day washing machines being adaptations from his original patents. He also invented the car coupler now in universal use on railroads, but through some misunderstanding or mistake in the patent office another man got the glory and the money for the invention. Mr. Kunkel spent the last few years of his life in Kansas City, to which place the family removed. He died there Februery 5, 1902.

THE CITY OF OREGON.

We have seen in a former chapter that Finley (now Oregon), the county seat of Holt County, was laid out on the 21st day of June, 1841, by John F. Williams, Edward Smith and Travis Finley, the commissioners who were appointed for that purpose by the legislature.

At the October term, 1841, held at the house of Jacob Martin, Judges Noland, Crowley and Kimsey on the bench, the commissioner, John Thorp, presented his plat of the town, which was ordered to be certified to the recorder's office for record.

On the following day, October 22, 1841, the original name of the county seat, Finley, was changed, and it was "Ordered that the county seat of Holt County be called and known by the name of Oregon, and which name is hereby given to said county seat."

FIRST SALE OF LOTS.

The first sale of lots occurred on the 21st and 22nd days of October, 1841, and the commissioner was granted till the next term of court to complete said sale. His report of the same does not appear to have been rendered till the May term, 1842, of the county court, which was held at the house of the Widow Jackson, as the following entry of that period shows:

"John Thorp makes the following settlement as commissioner of the seat of Justice of Holt County, as follows:



STREET SCENE, OREGON, MO.

A list of money received upon sale of Town Lots in the County Seat of Holt County:

James Kimsey	$ 3.90
George Borchers	4.00
B. B. Grigsby	12.60
B. B. Grigsby	13.20
Richard Linville	8.80
William Estes	10.50
Cornelius Dorland	15.30
John Russell	6.00
James S. Noland	3.80
Smith McIntyre	10.00
William Thorp	6.50

C. Dorland	2.32
John Gibson	2.06
Total	$98.98
Paid by order of the County Court and allowed	85.90
	$13.08
Four per cent allowed by law	3.98
Balance in hands of Commissioner	$ 9.10

SECOND SALE OF LOTS.

We have already referred to the first sale of lots in the town of Oregon, which occurred in October, 1841. The embarrassment on the part of the court in view of their mistaken action in locating the town site on two different quarters, has already been mentioned. Probably in view of this perplexity it was ordered by that body, at their April term, 1842, that all persons who had bought lots in the town of Oregon, the county seat of Holt County, be allowed the privilege to relinquish said lots to the County of Holt, providing said relinquishment be made by May 14, 1842, and that the commissioner advertise this order. The records show that several purchasers availed themselves of the benefit of this order.

After various attempts to right the matter before the courts and the land office, on a memorial to congress rendered April, 1842, a special act was passed by that body to relieve the difficulty by legalizing the location of the town site; and the space of twelve months was given the commissioner wherein to enter the land. On appearing a day or two before the expiration of the year, the authorities at the land office in Plattsburg declined, in view of the existence of the dispute, to accept the tender. The matter was finally decided in favor of the town by the United States Commissioner of the General Land Office, in Washington. On the 16th day of May, 1842, occurred, by special order, the second sale of lots in the town of Oregon, and the same was reported by Commissioner John Thorp at the June term of the Holt County Court, held at Mrs. Rachel Jackson's house.

EARLY SETTLERS AND BUILDINGS.

In the fall of 1841, Daniel Zook, Sr., emigrated from Ohio, and settled in Holt County, in the neighborhood of what was afterwards the town of Oregon. He brought with him a portion of a stock of merchandise, and, though not regularly engaged in the business, is said to have sold a few goods during that fall. In the following winter he went back to Ohio, and in the spring

of 1842, returned with his family, which included his son, William Zook, who afterawrds became a well-known banker of St. Joseph, where he died in the spring of 1876; John Zook, who died in the spring of 1843, in Oregon; Sarah A. Zook, afterwards the wife of W. Mill, of Holt County; Daniel Zook, Jr., for many years a member of the Holt County bar, and Thomas, his twin brother, who died young; Levi Zook, an early day capitalist of Oregon.

Daniel Zook, Sr., and his son William, built in Oregon, the first house in the place. This was on a lot on Missouri street, on the south side of the court house, and was purchased at the sale above mentioned. In this house they opened in June, 1842, the first stock of goods ever offered for sale in the town of Oregon. In the fall of the same year, Daniel Zook, Sr., died. On the occasion of his death, the county court located the present cemetery at the southeast corner of the town site, and the body of Daniel Zook, Sr., the pioneer merchant of the infant town of Oregon, was the first to rest beneath the sod of its virgin soil.

William Zook, on the death of his father, continued to sell goods in Oregon, till 1856. He was, however, engaged in business in Forest City, and elsewhere in the county, up to the period of his death. He also assisted in organizing the First National Bank, of St. Joseph and afterwards the Colhoun Bank in that city. Of both these institutions he was the first president. An eminently successful business man, he was also recognized as a liberal and public spirited citizen.

The second store started in the town of Oregon was opened by McLaughlin & Robidoux, in October, 1842. P. L. McLaughlin, the senior member of the firm and manager of the business, afterwards became a wealthy merchant and representative citizen of St. Joseph, where he died, late in life. Jules Robidoux, the other member of the firm, was a son of the founder of St. Joseph.

Edward Poor, in partnership with a man by the name of Ross, started in the fall of the same year, the first blacksmith shop in the place.

The first hotel in the town was built by Richard Linville, in the summer of 1842. This, though the second raised in the town, was not the second house completed. It was a log house, with four rooms below, and a hall running through the center. Above this were two rooms. This important structure for that day and locality stood on the northwest by north outside corner of the public square, the site of the present spacious three-story brick block, in which are the business houses of Moore & Springer and of D. Martin, the Masonic Hall, etc.

It appears that the Honorable County Court, of Holt Coun-

ty, assembled for the first time in the county seat, at their August term, 1842, on the eighth day of said month. The court house, however, not being completed, the unfinished bar room of Linville's Hotel was made to subserve the purpose of a court room. The building indeed was covered with a roof, but otherwise it presented the appearance of a vast pen. The interstices between the logs were neither chinked nor pointed. As yet, no floor had been laid; the aperture for a window contained no sash, and the doorway was unprovided with a door.

This extemporized hall of justice, however, presented the redeeming feature of coolness, for its ventilation was unstinted. The assembled court assumed no airs of undue importance, and the luxuries and superfluities of chairs and tables were dispensed



D. M. MARTIN BLOCK IN OREGON

with, while the judicial wisdom of Holt County seated itself astride the sleepers of the building on which a floor was, some day, intended to be laid; and those who waited on its august decrees either stood or seated themselves on chunks of timber lying conveniently around. This picture of Spartan simplicity and lofty indifference to surrounding circumstances, was, several years ago, described by a representative citizen of the town of Oregon, who, then a small boy, and wonderfully impressed with a sense of respect for the dignity of a court, which, in his infant mind, was associated with the idea of authority to hang or otherwise punish people, could not restrain an expression of amazement and disgust at the astounding difference between the imaginary and actual court.

The first saloon in Oregon was started by Ross, the pioneer blacksmith, in the fall of 1842. His stand was on the north side of Nodaway street, one block west of the court house square, where it remained for several years.

The third store established in the town was moved, in the fall of 1842, by McIntosh & Banks, from a trading post at Iowa Point Landing, Missouri, about four or five miles southwest of Oregon. This completed the mercantile business of the first year of the existence of the county seat.

FIRST SCHOOL.

The first school in Oregon was taught by John Collins. It was opened in the fall or winter of 1843, in a squatter's cabin, which stood in a hollow in the northeast quarter of the town. Among the first pupils who attended this initial school, to the number of about thirty, were Levi Zook, Isam Prior, John, Mary and Sarah, children of Roland Burnett, who had pre-empted the eighty on which part of the town was afterwards located; George Russel, a nephew of Judge R. H. Russel, for nearly twenty years probate judge of Holt County; the children of the Thorps, of Jacob Martin, and of Larkin Packwood, who had pre-empted the other eighty on which the town was located; Paris Pfouts, Cora Pfouts, afterwards the wife of P. L. McLaughlin, and Col. Kelley's sons. Mary Burnett, one of the pupils above referred to, afterwards became the wife of John Collins, the teacher. Mr. Collins died in 1854. Sarah Burnett married Thomas Collins, later a well known attorney of St. Joseph. The winter of 1843-44, during which this school was taught, is remembered by the early settlers, as one of the coldest in the annals of the Platte Purchase. Snow birds, in vast numbers, were rendered so tame by the protracted snow and cold weather, that they would fly into the cabins of the settlers.

FIRST PREACHER.

The first to preach the Gospel in the town of Oregon was E. M. Marvin, afterwards the renowned Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His first sermon was delivered in the fall or winter of 1842, in the old frame court house, the building later owned by William H. Sterrett, on the northwest by east, inside corner of the square, or northeast corner of Washington and Nodaway streets, opposite the public square. The VanBuskirk-Proud Block now (1916) stands on this corner. In those days the future bishop, who achieved long before the period of his death, a national reputation, was a young circuit rider, and, in common with others of his calling and position in the newly-trodden west, was endowed with but few of the world's goods. It is said that on the occasion of his first appearance in his mis-

sionary capacity in Oregon the seedy and dilapidated condition of his garments excited the compassion of the pioneer merchant of the town, who presented him with jeans sufficient to make him the suit of clothes of which he stood sorely in need, and which was gratefully accepted. William Zook, the merchant referred to, was at that time a member of no religious organization. He afterwards, however, united with the First Presbyterian Church in Oregon, in building, which, with Dr. W. H. Peter, he was largely interested.

F. S. Rostock, Sr., for many years a resident of Oregon, taught, in 1846, the first singing school in the town. He settled in Oregon in 1845, and for twenty years after pursued his avocation of teacher of vocal music. Mr. Rostock, a native of Germany, immigrated to Ohio, in 1832, and thence to Holt County in 1845. His son, F. S. Rostock, is now (1916) a business man in Oregon.

PHYSICIANS.

The first physician to settle in the town was Dr. J. C. Norman. About the same time, or shortly after, came Dr. Jabez Robinson and Dr. Carr. Dr. Norman settled in Oregon about 1842. He was the first physician to locate in the town, as well as the first in the county.

The first post office established in the county was, as before stated, in Lewis Township, near Thorp's Mill, and the first postmaster was R. H. Russel, for many years Judge of the Probate Court. On the establishment of the county seat Russel moved the office to Oregon, and appointed there, as his deputy, William Zook, in whose store it continued for some time after. The first to hold the office, by appointment, as postmaster of the town of Oregon was Dr. J. C. Norman. He was for many years a resident of the county and town, but subsequently moved to California, where he died in 1870. M. S. Norman, in later years a wealthy wholesame merchant of St. Joseph, a son of the late Dr. Norman, was the first white child born in the town of Oregon. His birth occurred in January, 1842.

The first tailor to settle in Holt County was G. W. Baxter, a brother-in-law of Peter and Blank Stephenson. He located in Oregon, in 1842, and built the second house in the town.

The log hotel described as standing on the northwest corner of Nodaway and Washington streets, and built by Richard Linville in 1842, was kept by him for several successive years. It finally became the property of Francis M. Pollock, who enlarged the building, weather boarded the entire structure without, and plastered it within. Previously to this Daniel Zook, Sr., and afterwards his son, William, had as a matter of accommodation

entertained during the sessions of the courts, the officials and many of the attendants on the same. Pollock's improvements on the original hotel, however, added a reputation which gave the house a sudden popularity, and it was liberally patronized.

But alas, for the stability of human affairs. About 8 o'clock on the evening of July 8th, 1851, while a party composed of Daniel Sipes, Jr., commonly called "Buck Sipes," a lad of about seventeen years, and son of Daniel Sipes, who started in 1842, about four or five miles southeast of town, the first distillery in the county, Francis M. Pollock, the landlord, James Fortune, John Job, James Thorp, a hostler, and an Englishman, whose names are now unknown, were assembled in the bar room of the hotel, the building was struck by lightning, with the most disastrous results. The bolt fell upon the southeast corner of the room, the electric fluid communicating instantly along the wall to the northeast corner, and there exploded a barrel of brandy, one of alcohol and one of Bourbon Whisky.

The flaming contents of the barrels instantly flooded the room, enveloping in flames every occupant. Job, who at the time was standing near the counter, was knocked down by the concussion, and almost entirely consumed by the devouring element, nothing but his skull and a few scattering pieces of bone being afterwards recovered. Fortune and Pollock were badly burned, the former dying before daylight, and the latter at sunrise. The hostler died in about seven days, and Thorp a day or two after. The Englishman also died. The only one of the entire party who recovered was Buck Sipes. Standing near the window at the time, he was completely overcome by the instantaneous and powerful results of the stroke but fortunately, with the instinct of self-preservation rather than from any presence of mind, he dashed out the window sash, and jumped through to the street. In the frenzy of terror, he started on a run for his home, five miles and a half distant. Though rain at the time was falling in torrents, the flames from his burning clothes were not extinguished when he reached Mill Creek, a stream three-fourths of a mile southeast of the burning building. He plunged into a mill pond, through which the stream ran, and waded through to the opposite side, thus completely extinguishing the fire in his clothing. He was terribly burned, and was confined to his bed eight weeks, in consequence of injuries sustained in the catastrophe. He ultimately recovered, but retained upon his person, up to the period of his death, which occurred in the spring of 1881, the marks of his terrible experience. Frank M. Pollock, who died as above stated about sunrise on the following morning, directed before he breathed his last, that he should be buried with his head to the east, thus facing the west. His reason for this request has been variously interpreted. He was a man of reputable standing in the community. He had served

several terms as constable, and was sheriff of the county from 1846 to 1850.

The first attorney to settle in Oregon was James Foster, from Ohio. He had been boarding at Mrs. Jackson's, and moved to Oregon in 1842.

The first livery stable in the town of Oregon was started by Alderson Keaton, in 1853. This was located on Nodaway street, two blocks east of the Court House Square. Samuel Stuckey, W. A. Cochran, D. A. Young and others have since conducted livery stables on this site. It is now occupied by a residence.

MILL.

The first and only mill ever erected in the town of Oregon was built by Utt & Watson, in 1854. It was a steam flouring mill. The members of this firm were John H. Utt, later a representative citizen of White Cloud, Kansas, and Judge Samuel Watson, for many years an honored member of the county bench. The deserted structure, a tall frame building, on a lofty stone basement, stood for many years in the southeast part of the town, a gloomy relic of other days. It has long since disappeared. It was, when first built, provided with two run of burrs. In the following year a circular saw was added. In 1862 Judge Watson moved the machinery of his carding and fulling mill from Mill Creek to Oregon, and located it in this building. This change was made because of the failure of the volume of water in the creek, which had supplied the power of the original mill. The flouring mill was operated in Oregon four years, and the carding and spinning mill six years. In 1858, Utt & Watson dissolved partnership, whereupon John H. Utt, the senior member of the firm, moved the machinery of the flouring mill to White Cloud, Kansas. In 1864, Judge Watson sold his machinery for the manufacture of cloth to Daniel Kunkel, Sr., who moved it to his mill on Mill Creek, about one-half or three-quarters of a mile east of Oregon. An attempt was made by one John McIntyre, in 1878, to start a corn mill in the long-deserted building but the enterprise proved a failure.

CHURCHES.

The pioneer religious organization of Oregon is the Presbyterian Church. The first Presbyterian preaching in Oregon, and possibly the first in this county was between 1840 and 1845 by the Rev. Elijah A. Carson, who in those early days, was pastor of the church in Savannah, Mo. In 1843 or 1844, a New School Presbyterian Church was organized in Oregon by the Rev. Tappan S. Reeve. This gentleman also preached in the homes of

the Presbyterians before this organization and also ministered to those in it, but because of weakness it only lived about one year. Rev. Reeve, leaving Oregon, went to St. Joseph, where he organized the First Presbyterian Church of that city, helping with his own hands to cut and hew the logs to build their first house of worship.

The present organization came into existence Saturday, January 1, 1853, by the Rev. William Hamilton and the Rev. S. M. Irwin as an Old School Presbyterian Church, but that division in Presbyterianism, known as Old School and New School, ended with the reunion of 1870. The founders of this church were members of the Presbytery of Nebraska and were missionaries to the Indians of the Iowa and Sac mission, Indian Territory (now Oklahoma.)

The organization took place in the old court house building of Oregon, in the presence of a good congregation and just after a sermon had been preached by the Rev. S. M. Irwin from Psalms 48:12-13. The church was organized with ten members. They were: Samuel Dunn and wife, Joseph Evans and wife, Dr. H. W. Peter and wife, R. G. Emerson and wife, John Meyer and wife. John Meyer and Dr. Peter were chosen the first ruling elders, and on the following day, Sabbath January 2, 1853, they were ordained, according to the forms of the Presbyterian Church.

The church building was the first of its kind erected in Oregon. It was completed in 1853, chiefly through the efforts of William Zook and Dr. W. H. Peter, and cost about $2,500. The building was of brick, and modern in its day. It served the purposes of the congregation until 1899, when it became apparent that a structure more suitable to the needs of the communicants must be provided.

Under the leadership of Rev. H. A. Sawyers, then pastor, steps were taken, beginning in June, 1899, which eventually led to the remodeling and rebuilding of the structure. The new building of brick is of the colonial style of architecture and modern in all of its appointments. It is provided with a main auditory, a Sunday school room and other necessary departments. It is heated by hot air and lighted by electricity.

The new building was dedicated January 21, 1900, by the Rev. Duncan Brown. On the old building was a dedicatory slab marked "1853," which was the gift of William Cook. On the present church is a similar slab marked "1899," donated by Henry Cook, son of William Cook. The committee which had charge of the rebuilding of the church was Robert Montgomery, Ira Peter, A. Van Buskirk, James Scott and N. F. Murray. A handsome parsonage for the use of the minister was completed in December, 1908.

From 1863 to 1865, a part of the "war period," the church was without a regular minister, and also had short vacancies at other times. But during these intervals some arrangement was made for temporary supply of the pulpit. The following named ministers have served this church: W. R. Fulton, 1853-1860; Cornelius McCain, 1861-1863; Nathan H. Smith, 1865-1869; William H. Cummins, 1869-1871; James Lafferty, 1871-1872; James McClung, 1873-1875; George Miller, 1875-1881; W. E. Williamson, 1881-1882; T. D. Roberts, 1882-1893; H. A. Sawyers, November, 1894 to February, 1903; James McFarland May, 1903 to August, 1906; James M. Walton, April, 1907 to March, 1911; T. A. Claggett, April, 1912 to date (1916). The present membership of the church is 134.

BAPTIST CHURCH.

The second church building erected in the town of Oregon was the Regular (Hard Shell) Baptist Church. It was a small brick house, which stood on the north side of the graveyard. It was built in 1858. Twenty years after, the building being deemed unsafe, it was taken down and the material sold to different parties, S. C. Collins being the principal purchaser. This is the church that was organized as early as 1843, two and a half miles southeast of the town, and referred to as the first religious organization in the county. It moved to Oregon from Mill Creek on the building of the brick church. The Christians subsequently purchased a half interest in, and for a long period after, used this church with the Baptists. The earlier records of the former church, however, were lost. In 1879, about a year after the Baptists had taken down their building in Oregon, they purchased for the extremely low price of $350, a good frame building, worth at least $1,000, and converted it into a church. The circumstance of their securing so excellent a bargain was due to the fact that the district in which the building stood had been consolidated with another in which there was also a school house, and consequently this building was rendered useless for its original purposes. This church stood in a beautiful grove on the road leading from Oregon to Forest City, about three-fourths of a mile from the latter town. In December, 1881, the membership was thirty-one. This congregation has since disbanded.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

The Desciples or Christians were first gathered together in this county in 1841, by Evangelist Cartwright, who preached to them in their homes, then at the old Mill Creek Baptist Church, alternating with the regular Baptists, who erected their little house of worship in 1845, just south of the Mill Creek school house. Judge Samuel Watson, now deceased, was the builder. These two organizations abandoned the Mill Creek church in

1858, and the Baptists erected a brick structure just south of the Oregon school house, near the cemetery, which was jointly used by these two organizations, until 1875, when it was razed by reason of being considered an unsafe structure. Stephen C. Collins bought the material and used much of it in the construction of his residence.

Following the work of Elder Cartwright came Elder Duke Young, who held meetings of the Desciples, at times at the residence of Israel Beeler, a short distance north of Oregon. Elder J. W. Kelsey held regular meetings about this time. As a completely organized body the history of this church dates from 1858, at which time Elder Young filled the pulpit. William D. Fields who in the early '70's resided north of Forest City filled appointments here and elsewhere. Prince L. Hudgins, of Andrew County, one of the most brilliant orators of his day, often filled appointments here and at other points in the county. Elders William Trapp and J. W. Tate, the latter from Graham, held meetings here, the former organizing a class in the Fairview district in 186 which in 1894 became known as the New Point Church.

In 1874 Elder William A. Gardner, afterward circuit clerk of this county, took charge. He went to California some years later, where he became one of the most noted evangelists on the Pacific slope. He remained in charge of the church here until 1879. It was through his efforts that this denomination erected its first house of worship, which was completed October 10, 1877. It was dedicated February 3, 1878 by Elder R. C. Barrow of Nebraska City, Nebr. Elders J. W. Kelsey and W. A. Gardner took part in the dedicatory services.

This brings us down from the early day struggles of this church, to the time it occupied its own house of worship. The pastors who have served from this time to the present, together with the years in which they began their pastoral duties, are: William A. Gardner, 1874; P. K. Dibble, 1879; William A. Gardner, 1880; W. T. Maupin, 1882; A. Hardman, 1884; L. Roberts, 1886; L. P. Tandy, 1887; Horace Sibberell, 1888; A. G. Alderman, 1891; M. McFarland, 1894; Clyde Darsey, 1896; W. T. Maupin, 1899; J. F. Bickel, 1902; Frank McCallon, 1904; W. A. Haynes, 1904; R. B. Robertson, 1906; J. W. Wesley, 1906; T. B. Knox, 1908; B. H. Dawson, 1908.

In the summer of 1909 plans were made for the remodeling and rebuilding of the church. This work was done during the year at a cost of $3,800. The church has a Sunday school room, main auditory, baptistry, vestibules and other features essential to a modern church. It was dedicated May 15, 1910, by Elder C. M. Chilton of St. Joseph.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The first Methodist Episcopal Church, of Oregon, is an outgrowth of the original organization instituted in the year 1841, and organized by Rev. Edwin Peary within the limtis of what is now Forbes Township, as fully set forth in our report of that locality.

The structure of the M. E. Church, in Oregon, stands on Main street, on the first corner south of the public square. It is a neat frame building, 55x35 feet in extent. The original edifice was erected in 1866. In the course of succeeding years, the superstructure appeared insecure; and, in 1879, it was deemed advisable to take down the building, which was accordingly done. The present neat and well appearing edifice was erected in 1879, on the foundation of the old building, and completed in 1881. Its cost was about $3,000. We have referred to the fact that the Rev. E. M. Marvin, afterwards Bishop of the M. E. Church, was the first minister of the Gospel to preach in Oregon. The church edifice of this denomination, however, was not the first house of worship erected in the county; that distinction belonging to the Hard-Shell Baptists.

Prior to the year 1864 there exists no records of this body. On the 9th of June of that year the church was reorganized in Oregon, by the Rev. Edward Rozell, with the following members: Benjamin Allen and wife, Edgar Allen and wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Bunker, L. D. Barnes and wife, Jacob Cronk and wife, Dr. J. A. Callan and wife, Rev. Dr. A. J. Evans and wife. Dr. Evans was the first recording secretary of the quarterly conference at Oregon. The other members, some of whom, perhaps, did not join the organization until 1865, included Dr. Reuben King and wife, A. Hoblitzell and wife, Mrs. Nancy Jackson, for thirty years a resident of the town of Oregon; Mrs. Elizabeth Kreek, Samuel Whitmer and wife, John Proud and wife, Joseph Martin and wife were members in 1865. George W. Lucas, originally from the state of Iowa, where he was at one time a member of the House of Representatives and afterwards of the State Senate, was a prominent member of the church in Oregon, and died at his residence near that place, January 2, 1882, at the advanced age of seventy-four years. Silas Pierce, now deceased, became a member of the church in 1868. Andrew Gemeker and wife, also deceased, united with the church here in 1869. The ministers of the Oregon church since its organization and the year of their appointments, have been: Edwin Perry, 1841; William Sellers, 1858; J. W. Caughlin, 1859; Edward Rozell, 1864; F. S. Biggs, 1866; Samuel Huffman, 1867; J. L. Hatfield, 1868; J. G. Boyle, 1869; William Hanley, 1870; F. H. Graham, 1871; S. W. Thornton, 1872; Oscar Williams, 1874; W. L. Edmonds, 1875; S. H. Enyeart, 1877; Isaac Chivington, 1879; James Showalter, 1880; Samuel Caruthers, 1881;

Charles Miller, 1884; W. B. Christy, 1885; J. R. Sasseen, 1887; C. J. Warner, 1889; C. H. John, 1891; M. B. Smith, 1893; Henry Crampton, 1896; A. J. Brock, 1903; T. J. Enyeart, 1906; T. C. Taylor, 1908; L. C. Powell, 1911; J. A. Thompson, 1912; J. W. Anderson, 1913; C. F. Hand, 1915.

THE GERMAN M. E. CHURCH.

The first to preach in Oregon for this church was the Rev. Henry Hogrefe, a circuit rider. The first services were held in 1847, at the residence of F. S. Rostock, Sr. They continued regularly for three successive years to meet at his house for religious services, till about the year 1850, when the congregation purchased for a church, a school building which stood on the site of the present brick edifice, opposite the Normal School. The Rev. Henry Hogrefe was succeeded by Rev. Ellis, and the latter by Rev. Charles Walters. Rev. Keeniky was the first presiding elder. In 1859, the present brick church, above mentioned, was erected at a cost of $3,650. The church was then organized by the Rev. M. Muehlenbrock, with the following members: F. S. Rostock, Sr. and wife, George Meyer, Daniel Kunkel, Philip Rostock, Ferdinand Simero, Michael Spoerle, Fred Mart, Jacob Herman, Herman Schulte, Andrew Gemaker, Jacob Kuentzle, Jacob Mart, C. Schlotzhauer, Philip Schneider, Philip Kollmer and Henry Hogrefe. The wives of the above mentioned were also members of the church and organization.

The following are the ministers who have served this church: Rev. H. Muehlenbrock, from 1859 to 1862; Rev. C. Dryer, from 1862 to 1863; Rev. Peter Hehner, from 1863 to 1864; Rev. Charles Steinmeyer, from 1864 to 1865; Rev. John Philip Miller, from 1865 to 1867; Rev. H. F. Arnsberger, from 1867 to 1869; Rev. George Schotz, from 1869 to 1872; Rev. Henry Fiegenbaum, from 1872 to 1875; Rev. William Fiegenbaum, from 1875 to 1876; Rev. F. Urland, from 1876 to 1879: Rev. C. Hermann entered on his pastoral duties in 1879 and served until 1882, since which time the following have ministered to the spiritual needs of this congregation: John Ashling, 1882-1884; John Ehrsam, 1884-1885; H. R. Reimer, 1885-1886; P. C. Schramm, 1887-1890; J. Kraettli, 1890-1891; J. S. Sternberg, 1891-1892; F. W. Fiegenbaum, 1892-1896; John Lauer, 1896-1900; H. A. Sickman, 1900-1904; W. Touat, 1904-1907; Henry Bruns, 1907-1911; William L. Meyer, 1911-1916.

EVANGELICAL.

The Evangelical Association began work in Holt County about forty years ago, with three members—Father Bucher and wife and Father Adam Rung, deceased. The following year Joseph Anselment and family and Henry and Daniel Zachman and families moved from Marion County, Ohio, and formed the

nucleus of the church organization in the county, from which has grown five church organizations, its membership numbering more than 250.

The Evangelical Association organized a class in Oregon in 1884, which consisted of Daniel Kunkel, Sr., and Eliza Kunkel, Pauline Kunkel and Daniel Kunkel, Jr., Elizabeth Schlotzhauer, Anna Rostock and Mary Vogan, to which was added soon after Daniel Zachman and wife and A. C. Morgan. From this little organization has grown one of the most zealous and active bands of christian workers to be found in the county.

At the close of a tabernacle meeting held in Oregon in July, 1895, the presiding elder, Rev. J. H. Tobias, called a meeting in the parsonage, where it was decided to build a church in Oregon. A subscription was immediately circulated and practically all of the funds needed were subscribed at the time. The St. Paul's Church of the Evangelical Association of Oregon, Missouri, was the name given to the new church edifice. It was dedicated to the service of the Master January 12, 1896, amid happy sacred song and eloquence. The dedicatory sermon was preached by Bishop Breyfogle of Redding, Pennsylvania. Presiding Elder Tobias also participated in the services. The pastors who have served this congregation are: A. E. Flickinger, 1895; J. H. Kiplinger, 1896; A. Solt, 1898; J. W. Keiser, 1899; H. E. Meyers, 1900; H. E. Bower, 1902; B. H. Hobbs, 1905; E. T. Boehringer, 1908; G. W. Weidemeir, 1910; F. C. Dissinger, 1914; W. C. Johnson, 1916.

COLORED BAPTIST CHURCH.

The Colored Baptist Church was erected in 1867, is a frame building, and contains a large membership.

SOCIETIES—I. O. O. F.

Pursuant to appointment and warrant of the Right Worthy Grand Lodge of Missouri, the D. D. G. M. Crane proceeded on the 10th of May, 1852, to institute in the town of Oregon a subordinate lodge, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge. After producing his authority the D. D. G. M. administered the proper obligation to the petitioners for charter, delivered to them their warrant and hailed them by the name of Oregon Lodge No. 54, I. O. O. F.

The following named were the first officers elected: James Foster, N. G.; William E. Pickett, V. G.; William Zook, Treasurer, and A. E. Morris, Secretary. The other charter members were Dr. W. H. Peter and W. D. Beeler. The first persons initiated was F. S. Rostock, Sr., and J. S. Grimm. The lodge now has a membership of 136.

MASONIC.

Oregon Lodge, No. 139, A. F. and A. M., was organized in a room in the original court house building, later owned and occupied as a store by H. Sterrett and now the Van Buskirk-Proud block. This organization was effected August 15, 1853, by virtue of a dispensation granted by the Grand Lodge of Missouri. The officers constituted in said dispensation were: J. W. Moodie, W. M.; James M. Tuton, S. W., and Galen Crow, J. W. The lodge was set to work by the Worshipful Master, who appointed the following officers: William E. Price, Secretary; Samuel V. Cannon, Treasurer; John F. Jackson, S. D.; C. E. Cayton, J. D., and Jacob Mosier, Steward and Tyler.

At the second meeting of this lodge, held September 5, 1853, the petitions for initiation of A. W. Rodgers, F. S. Rostock, E. R. Brown, James Foster, Elijah Merrill, H. M. Upton, A. C. Bevan, W. P. Birchfield, and Dr. John Dozier, were read and referred to proper committees.

At a regular meeting held in their hall October 3, 1853, James Foster, H. M. Upton, F. S. Rostock, Sr., and E. R. Brown were initiated in due form. This was the first "Work" done in this lodge. They were all subsequently, in due time, passed and raised. The lodge prospered abundantly, and continued to work under dispensation, holding their last session by virtue of that instrument, May 7, 1855.

The first meeting under charter, which designates the organization as Oregon Lodge, No. 139, and is dated May 31, 1855, occurred in Oregon June 16, 1855. The officers mentioned in the charter are: John W. Moodie, W. M.; James Foster, S. W., and Daniel Zook, J. W. The other officers mentioned in the report of that meeting are H. Patterson, Treasurer; Daniel Zook, Secretary; G. W. Crow, S. D.; G. W. Bratton, J. D., and F. G. Rostock, Steward and Tyler.

The first election under charter, for officers, occurred June 24, 1855, with the following result: James Foster, W. M.; Levi Zook, S. W.; G. W. Bratton, J. W.; Hiram Patterson, Treasurer; Daniel Zook, Secretary; G. W. Crow, S. D.; Henry Meyer, J. D.; F. S. Rostock, Steward and Tyler.

In 1856, the Odd Fellows began, in connection with the Masonic fraternity, to erect the large three-story brick structure which stands on the northwest corner of Washington and Nodaway streets, fronting the former fifty feet, and extending back on the latter one hundred feet, thus forming the northwest by north outside corner of the court house square. Finding themselves unable to complete the structure, after having excavated the cellars and laid the foundations, they sold out to James Foster, a prominent attorney and capitalist of the town, as well as

an active and influential member of both orders, who proceeded to complete the building. The Odd Fellows either purchased from him afterwards, or reserved the right to build the third story for their hall, which they afterwards did, selecting the corner site.

The Masonic fraternity did likewise with the north half of the third floor. Thus the entire third floor of the building is owned by these two bodies. About the close of the war James Foster sold his share of the building, including the entire two lower stories to Cotterell, Keeves & Co., who occupied the southwest room as a general store. In the spring of 1867, Cotterell, Keeves & Co. sold the south half of the building to Hoblitzell Bros. T. W. Collins became, in 1869, proprietor of the whole first and second floors. He subsequently sold to other parties.

The other Masonic organizations in Oregon, included Keystone Royal Arch Chapter, No. 46, originally chartered in Oregon, was subsequently moved to Mound City, in which chapter of this work its history will be found. Holt County Council, No. 15, R. and S. M., was chartered July, 1872, with E. L. Allen, T. I. G. M.; R. N. Howell, T. C. Dungan. This body surrendered its charter in 1880

WOMAN'S UNION.

The first woman's club in the State of Missouri was organized in Oregon January 6, 1872. It was known as the Woman's Union. The charter members were Mrs. S. Q. Goslin, Stella A. Goslin, Mrs. M. M. Soper, Mary Curry, Anna Bachelor, Anna K. Irvine and Elvira Broadbeck. The club was formed for the mental, moral and physical improvement of woman, according to the announced purpose at the time of its inception. The club has maintained its identity through the vicissitudes of the years that have passed and it is now one of the well established societies of Oregon.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

The Knights of Pythias organized a lodge in Oregon on the evening of December 12, 1893, with a charter membership of thirty-eight. Dr. J. T. Thatcher was the first chancellor commander; D. C. Anderson, vice-chancellor and C. L. Evans, prelate.

The Ancient Order of United Workmen organized in Oregon July 22, 1880. The lodge was instituted by D. D. G. M. W., H. W. Russe, with the following officers and charter members: Fred Meyers, P. M. W.; W. R. Springer, M. W.; J. H. Nies, foreman; Thomas L. Price, overseer; C. J. Hunt, recorder; Dr. J. T. Thatcher, receiver; W. H. Frame, financier; F. S. Ros-

tock, Jr., guide; Nicholas Stock, I. W., and D. M. Martin, O. W.

The Fraternal Aid Association organized July 16, 1892. The first officers were: George F. Seeman, past president; C. H. John, president; Andrew Kreek, vice-president; H. E. Denny, secretary.

Meyer Post, G. A. R., was organized December 20, 1882. O. C. Hill was the first commander; A. C. Ware, senior vice; J. A. Nies, junior vice, and D. P. Dobyns, adjutant.

The Woodmen of the World established their Oregon camp November 9, 1894. The officers were: J. W. Kreider, council commander; F. M. Green, advisory lieutenant; John Markt, clerk; E. C. Meyer, banker.

The Modern Woodmen of America organized a camp in Oregon in October, 1897. It flourished for a time but is now rather inactive.

The Ancient Order of Pyramids perfected an organization in Oregon in May, 1897. C. W. Lukens was the presiding officer.

NORMAL AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

We have already referred to the fact that the first school taught in the town of Oregon was a private enterprise, inaugurated in the winter of 1843, by John Collins. The people of Oregon have always been known for their earnest appreciation of the advantages of education, and early availed themselves of such means and appliances for promoting the cause as the law provided.

Prior to the year 1857, the town of Oregon included two school districts, known as East and West, numbered respectively 14 and 15, each being provided with a separate building.

In 1857, these two districts were united, and a new brick building was planned and commenced. The structure was twenty-four by sixty feet, two stories high, and included four rooms and two halls. This building was occupied in the fall of 1858, by Cyrus Cook, as principal; G. W. Bayless and Mrs. C. Cook, as assistants.

In the spring of 1873 bonds were voted and arrangements made for the erection of a new school building to cost $25,000. The old building was torn down and an entirely new structure was erected in its stead. The new building was used as a public school with a normal department, which at that time was one of the best equipped and most efficiently managed schools in the country. This high standard has been maintained to the present day.

The school building of 1873 was an elegant brick structure,

modeled on the latest and best plans of that day. There was a basement under the entire area of the building which contained twelve rooms and was heated by hot air. The appliances for promoting ventilation were complete in every detail. The structure was surmounted by a tower, rising ninety-six feet above the main entrance to the building. From the belfry in the tower could be seen, in a clear day, Highland, White Cloud, Iowa Point, Troy and other towns in Kansas, as well as Rulo, Nebraska. Eastward several Missouri towns were discernible toward sundown, if the atmosphere was clear.

But fine as this building was when built, the time came when it was found inadequate. The development of the times brought about needs and requirements which were not known in the early '70's and, as in all other things, Oregon must have the best. Therefore it became necessary to have a new high and public school building.

In February, 1915, a petition was submitted to the Board of Education asking that a bond proposition for a new school be submitted to the voters. In April following the taxpayers voted favorably upon a proposition to issue bonds for $25,000 for the rebuilding of the high school building which had been in service for about forty years. The contract was let in July to William I. Schragg of St. Joseph and the building was ready for occupancy in January, 1916.

The new building is of brick with stone coping, 60x75 feet, three stories, including the basement, which has a nineteen-foot ceiling. In this is the gymnasium, 30x60 feet, with a seating capacity of 200. It has also rooms for manual training, baths, etc. The floor above the basement has four recitation rooms, superintendent's office, hospital room, laboratory, etc. The second floor is occupied by a study hall and gallery. Its seating capacity is about 500.

Some of the most successful educators in Missouri have served in the Oregon schools. Professor Cook, to whom reference has already been made, remained for several terms. After him the following named were successively employed as principals: T. W. Collins, Ancel Watrous, Green O. Dersham. Clarke Irvine was principal in 1864-65. He was followed in the order named by: Noah Huntsman, Rev. Morrison, Thomas Miller, and J. C. McKnight. Hiram Hershberger was principal from 1870 to 1872, since which time the following named have served: W. F. Drake, 1872-74; M. V. Babbitt, 1874-75; H. Hershberger, 1875-76; O. C. Hill, 1876-82; C. L. Ebaugh, 1882-83; O. C. Hill, 1883-85; B. J. Specking, 1885-87; J. F. Martin, 1887-88; J. W. Kieff, 1888-1890; F. G. Bennett, 1890-91; U. W. Gallagher, 1891-93; L. N. Gray, 1893-95; D. L. Roberts, 1895-1900; G. F. McKinney, 1900-01; A. R. Coburn, 1901-08; Ernest Tate, 1908-09;

E. M. Brooks, 1909-12; E. J. Powell, 1912-14; J. G. Ensor, 1914 to date.

NEWSPAPERS.

The first newspaper printed in the county was the Holt County News, issued Wednesday, July 1, 1857, in Oregon. The editor was J. H. C. Cundiff, a man who figured prominently in the stirring times which preceded the Civil war. He sold the paper to Cook & Watrous, April 8, 1859. On April 29 of the same year, J. W. Biggers became a member of the firm and from the editorial head one read, "published by Cyrus Cook & Co." On July 1, 1859 Cyrus Cook became the sole owner, and on November 11, of that year A. Watrous, Jr., became the owner. On May 11, 1860, Charles W. Bowman, who afterward established the Sentinel, became associated with Watrous in the publication of the News. Watrous & Bowman ceased publication of the News November 24 of the same year. A. R. Conklin, of the Forest City Courier, took charge and continued the publication until February 2, 1861, when J. Robinson and J. W. Biggers took charge.

About this time war's black cloud began hovering over the country and publishing newspapers was a precarious occupation. There was an issue of the News May 11, 1861, but on the 18th there was none. The situation was considered dangerous. An extra was issued on the 15th calling upon all loyal citizens to assemble in Oregon on Saturday, the 18th, for the purpose of military organization, "to defend our homes and families," as announced by the call, which was signed "Many Citizens."

Events crowded themselves in quick succession during the few days next succeeding the publication of this extra. The editorial management was changed and passed into the hands of J. W. Biggers July 20, 1861, and four days later a sudden termination to this journalistic enterprise was brought about when the office and fixtures were seized by Col. E. Peabody of the 13th Regiment.

The Holt County Sentinel, the only paper now published in Oregon, was first issued June 30, 1865, and was the second newspaper venture in the town. It is the second oldest newspaper in northwest Missouri and for more than thirty years has been under the able management of D. P. Dobyns and Thomas Curry, both experienced and capable newspaper men. Mr. Dobyns, who was connected with the paper before the partnership was formed has been its editor for more than forty years. The Sentinel has one of the best equipped plants in this section of the state, being pritned on a power press, from type set on a late style type setting machine. None of the modern appliances which are of so much service in the production of a newspaper

are lacking. It is a long step from the primitive hand press and hand set type on which the paper was first printed to the up-to-date plant in which it is now produced.

D. P. Dobyns is at the head of the editorial end and Thomas Curry looks after the business and mechanical departments. While, as stated, the mechanical part of the plant is well nigh perfect, the editorial department is among the foremost in this part of the country. This is due in large part to the elaborate and comprehensive historial library which Editor Dobyns has compiled during the last twenty or thirty years. It is the most complete reference library of its kind in the west and has attracted such attention from the metropolitan press that special men have been sent to Oregon for data concerning the library from which they have written many Sunday and other "feature" stories.

The Sentinel was founded by Charles W. Bowman, now a resident of Washington, D. C., where he has a position in the census department. A. N. Ruley succeeded Mr. Bowman in the management of the paper February 12, 1869. Mr. Ruley did not long remain in charge of the shears and paste pot. He sold the property to Adam Klippel, July 9, 1869. Mr. Klippel was editor of the Sentinel from that date until 1876, when on November 17th. he passed the editorial and business management over to W. W. Davenport, while D. P. Dobyns had charge of the mechanical department.

The name was changed January 7, 1881, to "The County Paper," at which time D. P. Dobyns became the publisher. It was during the spring of that year that the Missouri Valley suffered inestimable loss from the overflow of the Missouri River. Transportation being shut off and the supply of print paper being exhausted one issue was printed on manila wrapping paper gathered up about town.

In the spring of 1881 Mr. Davenport retired from the paper and it passed to the ownership of D. P. Dobyns and W. F. Waller. In December of that year Mr. Waller retired and Mr. Dobyns became sole owner. On August 19, 1883, the paper became the property of the present owners, D. P. Dobyns and Thomas Curry and the name changed to The Holt County Sentinel. The Sentinel Printing and Publishing Company was incorporated in November, 1914, with a capital of $10,000. D. P. Dobyns is president and Thomas Curry secretary-treasurer of the company. The Sentinel has always been consistently Republican in politics.

The Missouri Valley Times was established in Oregon in 1874 by William Kaucher and John M. Hasness as a Republican paper. Captain Kaucher disposed of his interest to Henry

Shutts in 1876 and the name was changed to the Holt County Press. The politics of the paper also changed and it thenceforth advocated the principles of Democracy. In June, 1877, Mr. Shutts sold to Clarke Irvine. In September, 1881, Mr. Irvine sold to his son, Leigh, who associated himself with J. M. Hasness in the publication of the paper. Hasness retired from the partnership in 1884 and the following year Clarke Irvine again became the owner.

In December, 1887, Mr. Irvine sold to a temperance syndicate composed of B. O. Cowan, Vine Hovey, James Scott, S. T. Lucas, and Niel Hoblitzell. They secured R. A. Grimes of Kansas City as editor and changed the name to The Advocate. As is usually the case when a number of inexperienced men attempt the management of a newspaper, this syndicate did not long remain in the journalistic field.

On March 17, 1888, the property was bought by William Kaucher and J. W. Kieff. In a few weeks Mr. Kieff sold his interest to Frank Evans, who with Captain Kaucher conducted The Advocate until the fall of 1888, when Evans became the sole owner. In September, that year, he changed the name back to the Holt County Press. Mr. Evans remained in the field until May, 1890, when The Press suspended and the material was sold to an ambitious journalist in Plattsburg.

The Holt County Republican was the beginning of another newspaper venture in Oregon. H. H. Hoskins, who had been publishing The Sun at Forest City, moved his plant to Oregon February 13, 1892, and began the publication of his paper. It suspended in September following. The mechanical plant was bought by J. S. Rigdon, who came here from St. Joseph, and established the Holt County Democrat, the first issue appearing November 27, 1892. The Democrat was laid away in the journalistic graveyard October 19, 1893.

In October, 1894, the paper was revived by Ed. S. Hayes, who had been in the newspaper business in Forest City. He formed a partnership with R. C. Benton, then county clerk. Mr. Benton retired after a few months and Elder James T. Craig, became interested with Mr. Hayes. John M. Hasness bought the plant in October, 1896. He sold a half interest to his foreman, W. S. Dray. In April, 1897, Hasness sold his interest to Dray who moved the plant to Mound City, where it was merged with several others in the publication of the Jeffersonian.

The Gossip, a weekly semi-magazine, devoted to social news and local gossip, was established by Grant Holtz and Frank Evans, November 6, 1883. It suspended after three months' existence.

The Boys' Budget, published by W. R. Curry and Edgar

Crampton, for the students of the high school, was started in April, 1898. It was discontinued in September, the same year.

The Pantagraph was launched by the students of the high school in January, 1902. In June following, it was discontinued.

Das College der Leute, a four-page monthly publication, managed by the high school students, made it appearance September 15, 1912. It was discontinued at the end of the school term the following spring.

BANKS.

The history of banks and banking in Holt County dates from the founding of the first institution of the kind by Levi Zook and James Scott in October, 1866. Their banking house was situated in the historic court house corner, where the Van Buskirk-Proud block now stands. The partnership continued for three and one-half years when Mr. Zook retired and Mr. Scott continued the business until June, 1871, when the bank passed to the ownership of R. Montgomery & Co., the "company" being a Mr. Phillips, who came with Mr. Montgomery from Illinois.

In 1872 Mr. Zook again engaged in the banking business, having purchased Mr. Phillips' interest. The firm name was changed to Zook & Montgomery. It was during this partnership that the location of the bank was changed to the rear of a store conducted by Ira Peter. The room fronted on Nodaway street and was reached by a narrow stairway leading from the sidewalk.

Mr. Zook disposed of his interest to M. S. Norman in January, 1875, and the firm became known as Montgomery & Norman. This was continued until January, 1877, when Albert Roecker took over the Norman interest. Montgomery & Roecker continued at the location mentioned until the fall of 1877, when they moved to a building they had erected half a block north, which at the time of its erection was reckoned the best and most modern bank building in the county. In January, 1890, Levi Zook and his son, Charles D. Zook, purchased an interest and the business was incorporated under the name of the Montgomery & Roecker Banking Company.

In 1895, upon the death of Levi Zook, his son, Charles D. Zook, succeeded to his interest. The following year Mr. Montgomery retired, having disposed of his interest to Mr. Zook and Guy L. Cummins. Since 1896 the corporate name has been the Zook & Roecker Banking Company. Owing to ill health Albert Roecker retired in January, 1911, and Lewis I. Moore purchased an interest in the company.

Keeping step with the march of progress everywhere evi-

dent, the banking company decided in 1912 that it had outgrown its quarters. A contract was let for the rebuilding of the structure which had housed it since 1877. When the work was done the bank moved into new quarters excelled by none anywhere for convenience and beauty. The new building was occupied in February, 1913.

Robert Montgomery was elected president in 1890. He served until 1903 when C. D. Zook was elected and who still fills the office.

Levi Zook was elected vice-president in 1890; A. Roecker, 1895; Guy L. Cummins, 1911; L. I. Moore, 1912.

The office of cashier has been filled by the following named: A. Roecker, 1890 to 1912, when Guy L. Cummins, the present cashier was elected.

C. D. Zook was assistant cashier in 1890. He was followed by Guy L. Cummins in 1903; L. I. Moore, 1911; George F. Seeman, 1916.

This bank has a capital stock of $21,000 and a surplus of $11,000.

The Citizens Bank came into existence February 7. 1890, on which date a charter was issued to George Anderson, George W. Quick, Daniel Zachman and Warren B. Davis. Daniel Zachman was elected president at the first meeting of directors and he has held his position ever since. Cave J. Hunt was the cashier in the beginning and served until 1915, when he was succeeded by William Schulte, who still holds the office. George Anderson was vice-president from the date of the organization of the bank until his death in 1898. He was succeeded by B. F. Morgan, the present incumbent. This bank has a capital of $20,000 and a surplus of $14,000.

The Citizens Bank has prospered practically from the day it first opened its doors for business. It is now one of the most substantial banking enterprises in the county and has an excellent reputation among its patrons and the public generally.

In March, 1910, this bank occupied new and handsome quarters in what had been known up to that time as the Watson building. It was completely overhauled and refitted with the latest and most modern equipment. The improvements made at this time cost upwards of $10,000.

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE TOWN.

Prior to the summer of 1876, when James A. Keeves & Co. erected, at a cost of five thousand dollars, their spacious two-story brick business house, on the corner of Main and Nodaway streets, there was, with the exception of the court house, but

one brick building in the town, and that was the three-story block on the northwest by north outside corner of Washington and Nodaway streets, in the third story of which are located the halls of the Odd Fellows and the Masonic Lodges. Shortly after the erection of Keeves' building Daniel David erected, on Washington street a two-story brick business house, twenty-six and a half by fifty feet, with a one store rear extension of twenty-five feet.

The sun of August 6, 1877, set upon a row of dingy, rickety, dilapidated, and altogether hideous looking frame buildings on Nodaway street, fronting the public square, presenting a spectacle alike discreditable to the enterprise of the citizens of the town, and offensive to the gaze of the stranger arriving in the same, and especially striking in its contrast with the neat and attractive structure of the court house, and the luxuriant growth of the beautifully-kept park, in the center of which that then primitive temple of justice reared its graceful proportions. In the eternal fitness of things, however, it was decreed that this abuse of the bounty of the Giver of All Good, should no longer be tolerated. The morning of the 7th of August rose upon another scene. The eye-sore, the blot upon the fair picture of Oregon's wealth of vine, of fruit tree and of graceful shade was a sheet of devouring flame. In one short hour naught but the smouldering embers and foundation stones remained to tell the story of departed hideousness and delapidation. The people silently acquiesced in the justice of the visitation, only regretting that they had not long before taken down the old rat harbors, which would have afforded fuel and kindling wood for a considerable period of time. They went to work and rebuilt their town speedily and with a hearty will. No ephemeral frame buildings, with ginger-bread decorations, however, rose upon the ruins, but neat, elegant and substantial brick structures, which would be creditable to a city of many times the population of Oregon.

The rebuilding of the destroyed houses prompted others (for enterprise begets enterprise) also to build, and by the fall of the first summer the handsome row of contiguous buildings were put up by the following parties, and at the cost annexed to their several names: F. and G. Seaman, $2,000; T. I. Kreek, three buildings, two at a cost of $3,000 each and one at a cost of $1,250; N. Stock, $2,500; Dr. M. Lehmer, $2,200; William Hawkins, $3,200, and Amos Castle, $1,600. These buildings constitute a solid block of two-story structures of uniform height, and generally corresponding external appearance. In the same season the Christians erected on Nodaway street, on the corner one block south of the court house square, a neat brick church, with graceful spire. Before the close of 1877, the brick banking house of Montgomery & Roecker, on Nodaway street, was completed and occupied.

The spirit of enterprise which manifested itself in the rebuilding of the burned district did not die out after its first effort. The town has kept pace with the progress of the times both in the erection of business houses, and the building of modern homes. There are few towns of like size anywhere in which are to be found more good homes than in Oregon.

Among the more important public buildings built in recent years is the Hotel Woodland, which was completed in 1892 at a cost of $15,000. It was formally opened to the public by Landlord Charles K. Soper, March 3, 1898. It is a three-story structure and has recently been modernized by the addition of a heating plant and other features that make the stay of the guest comfortable.

The Van Buskirk-Proud business block at the northwest corner of the square was erected in 1890 at an approximate cost of $10,000. It is two stories and a credit to the enterprise of the men who built it. It consists of two modern store buildings, with second floors devoted to offices of professional men. The building on the corner—the Van Buskirk portion of the block—is now (1916) occupied by the post office, while the other portion houses the drug store of E. O. Phillips.

The crowning effort of the enterprising people of Oregon, however, was the building of the short line railroad connecting the town to the Burlington's main line at Forest City. It began active operations early in 1909 and represents an investment of about $90,000. Further mention of this enterprise will be found in the chapter devoted to railroads.

Several frame buildings in the west side of the square were destroyed by fire in 1891. They were replaced the following year by brick business houses erected by L. I. Moore, T. L. Price and Fred Seeman.

One of the most important improvements made in the town since the first day of its existence was the building of the electric light and water plant. Bonds to the amount of $25,000 were voted in December, 1897, there being but one tax payer who voted against the proposition. The survey for the plant had been made by Phillips & Young in 1896. The contract was let March 7, 1898. Upon the completion of the plant a jubilee celebration was held September 29, 1898, when the town was filled with invited friends who came and joined with the people of Oregon in celebrating the success of the enterprise, which was a very important one for such modern conveniences were not common in the smaller towns at that day.

The power plant and pumping station are located at Forest City, about three miles west, at the edge of the Missouri River bottom. Here excellent, inexhaustible wells have been sunk

and the necessary machinery installed. Service is furnished both Oregon and Forest City. The plant represents an investment of about $50,000, as several additional bond issues have been authorized by the taxpayers since the first election for that purpose was held.

The initial steps for the organization of the Oregon Canning Company were taken in January, 1891. A company was organized with N. F. Murray, president; H. T. Alkire, vice-president; J. T. Thatcher, secretary and C. D. Zook, treasurer. The company was incorporated for $10,000 and built its plant at the northern end of the town on ground particularly well suited for the purpose. The plant began operations in August, 1891. J. R. Linville was the processor, or technical man in charge. The product of this company took the first prize at the Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893.

George Anderson bought the property in March, 1892, and operated the plant until his death in 1898, when it was sold to L. I. Moore. Joseph Murray bought an interest in this enterprise in 1911.

TELEPHONES.

The first telephone line in Oregon, according to a contribution from Clare B. Irvine, printed in the Holt County Sentinel a few years ago, was built in April, 1887. It was built by and at the expense of Dr. J. T. Thatcher, W. R. Hoffman and Clare B. Irvine. The line extended from the north side of Nodaway street—opposite the court house—to Forest City.

Dan M. Martin and son, M. R. Martin, installed in Oregon the first telephone exchange. It was opened for business January 1, 1898. At that time a telephone was more of a luxury than it is today when it is considered by most people one of the necessities. In 1899 the line was extended to Forest City and an exchange established in that town. The two plants were operated by the same management and were equipped with the most modern appliances known to the industry at that time.

In 1911 Mr. Eccles bought Dan Martin's stock in the Forest City lines and in 1913 Ira H. Murray bought a majority of the stock in the company for $27,000.

The Farmers Mutual Telephone Company put its first line into operation in Oregon in February, 1903. In 1910 the company was incorporated and moved its offices into the quarters it is now occupying. This company reaches the majority of the farmers in the country tributary to Oregon and in addition has a large number of subscribers in town.

Both companies enjoy a good patronage and are in a prosperous condition. In August, 1915, an effort was made to con-

solidate both enterprises under one management, but it was unsuccessful.

MAYORS.

The city of Oregon was chartered by a special act of the legislature November 5, 1857. On March 24, 1870, the act was amended so as to extend its jurisdiction over subsequent additions.

The elections for Mayor are held on the first Tuesday in April, each year. Those who have filled this office, since the organization of the town government, are: Daniel David, 1857; B. B. Frazer, 1859; Peter Price, 1860; Daniel David, 1861. There was no civil government from 1863 to 1864. William Hawkins, 1864; James S. Hart, 1865; S. C. Collins, 1866; A. Walters, 1867. He failed to qualify and William Smith was elected in May following. James S. Hart, 1868; G. M. Edson, 1869; R. D. Markland, 1870; Samuel Stuckey, 1871; Henry Shutts, 1875; Samuel Stuckey, 1877; M. H. Soper, 1879; James Limbird, 1880 (resigned in January, 1881, to go to the legislature as representative.) Clark O. Proud filled the office until the election in April, 1881, when James E. Cummins was elected. S. F. O'Fallon, 1882; W. R. Hoffman, 1884; H. T. Alkire, 1888; C. O. Proud, 1889; L. I. Moore, 1890; H. E. Denny, 1892; James E. Cummins, 1894; H. T. Alkire, 1896; Henry Shutts, 1900. Mayor Shutts was reelected in 1902, and died in 1903. Robert Montgomery was selected to fill out the term. G. W. Murphy was elected in April, 1904 and served until his death in November, 1909. R. C. Benton completed the term. B. F. Morgan was elected in 1910, but resigned in October, 1911, and Dr. F. E. Markland was chosen to fill the vacancy. W. H. Richards was elected in 1912 and served until 1916, when he was followed by George R. Murray, the present Mayor.

POSTMASTER.

Prior to the establishing of the post office in Oregon the people received their mail by the star route system from Thorp's Mill, where R. H. Russell was postmaster. This office was established in 1839, the year that envelopes were first used. The office at Thorp's Mill was maintained until the town of Oregon was well under way when Postmaster Russell, without waiting for the consent of the post office department or any one else, named William Zook as his successor and the office was moved to Oregon, where Mr. Zook had opened a stock of goods. This was in 1842. The following named have since been appointed postmaster at Oregon on the dates given: John C. Norman, January 17, 1843; George W. Kelley, December 9, 1845; John Dozier, February 7, 1848; Galen Crow, March 19, 1851; Henry

W. Peter, December 5, 1853; W. H. Williams, December 23, 1856; James J. Ruley, January 20, 1857; B. J. Bowen, February 20, 1860; John P. Halbach, January 2, 1861; Howard T. Combs, May 11, 1861; W. H. Sterrett, March 15, 1862; William Hawkins, February 24, 1865; B. F. Potter, April 25, 1866; S. P. Jewell, March 16, 1869; Mrs. Kate G. Holtz, March 10, 1871; E. L. Allen, November 14, 1881; Mrs. Kate G. Holtz, July 1, 1885; D. P. Dobyns, July 1, 1889; Henry Shutts, November 30, 1893; Thomas Curry, November 15, 1897; George H. Allen, April 30, 1907; Hugh G. Harsha, November 9, 1915.

The office continued as a fourth class post office until June, 1892, when it was made a presidential office. It became a money order office July 14, 1869. A postal savings bank was established in connection with the office December 19, 1911. The first rural free delivery route was established February 1, 1901, with John Lukens as carrier. The office now has five routes, covering 130 miles and serving 467 families.

PAVED STREETS.

Deterimned that their town should not be lacking in any respect as compared with others of like size, the people of Oregon, late in the year 1915, took up the matter of paving the principal business streets. There was an active response on the part of the property owners when the matter was officially brought to their attention and within a short time after the matter was first agitated the city council awarded a contract on May 25, 1916, to Reinert Brothers Construction Company of St. Joseph for paving Washington street, extending from the railroad station to the south side of the court house square. The contract for Nodaway street, extending east and west on the north side of the court house park, and the two blocks necessery to complete the work around the court house block, was let to the A. Jaicks Company of Kansas City. J. R. Leslie, of St. Joseph, was the engineer in charge of the work. These improvements represent an expenditure of nearly $50,000.

TRANSMISSION COMPANY.

The St. Joseph Transmission Company was incorporated in 1916, with a capital stock of $60,000. The officers are D. M. Martin, president; W. H. Richards, vice-president; George Lehmer, treasurer; M. R. Martin, manager. The company was formed for the purpose of buying electric current from the St. Joseph Railway, Light, Heat & Power Company and distributing it to customers in the several towns in Northwest Missouri. A line has been built from St. Joseph and the success of the enterprise seems assured.

MISCELLANEOUS—SOME FIRST THINGS.

The first baseball club organized in the county was in Oregon, April 12, 1867. T. C. Dungan was chosen president; Ira Busick, vice-president; C. B. Bowman, secretary and Jonas Lehmer, treasurer.

The first band was organized in Oregon, April 12, 1869. The citizens raised a fund for the purchase of the instruments. The members were S. W. Morrison, Moses Bennett, Daniel Kunkel, A. J. Martin, Jack Masters, George Bowman, F. S. Rostock, J. H. Nies, George Seeman, and John A. Price.

George W. Baxter was the first tailor in the town. He located here in 1842 and built the second house in Oregon.

Oregon furnished the company of men which laid out the town of White Cloud, Kansas, in 1856. The company consisted of John H. Utt, James Foster and Dr. H. W. Peter. The land belonged to the Indians and White Cloud was named for a chief of the Iowas. Among the stockholders who afterward became interested in the venture was Dr. Richard J. Gatling, the inventor of the Gatling gun.

Oregon has a weather station which for number of years of active service, is not exceeded anywhere. It was established by Captain William Kaucher, many years before the government began paying much attention to weather observations. It was purely a labor of love on his part, but he was a painstaking, capable man and the records he preserved are now almost invaluable. When Captain Kaucher was called to his reward March 5, 1903, the work was taken up by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Curry, who have since continued it along the lines followed by Captain Kaucher.

The first concrete residence in the town was built by Elder B. H. Dawson in 1912.

Oregon became a city of the fourth class in July, 1881, by a vote of 120 to 6.

The first concrete sidewalk in Oregon was laid by Samuel Stuckey in June, 1897.

R. S. Keeves brought the first automobile to Holt County in September, 1903.

CHAPTER XXII.

LINCOLN TOWNSHIP—ONE OF THE BEST TOWNSHIPS IN THE COUNTY—NAMES OF EARLY SETTLERS—THE TOWN OF CORNING—EARLY MERCHANTS AND BUSINESS MEN—PRESENT DAY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES—CHURCHES, SCHOOLS AND NEWSPAPERS—SECRET ORDERS—BANKS.

Lincoln Township, in the northwest corner of Holt County, constitutes the smallest municipal division of the same; its entire area including not more than twenty square miles. Its territory was designated the township of Lincoln, March 22, 1871. Its outline is somewhat peculiar, suggesting the idea of a carpenter's square. It is bounded on the north, in a distance of six miles and a half, by the line of Atchison County; on the east and south by Union Township; and on the west by the State of Nebraska, from which it is separated by the Missouri River, by the encroachments of which the territory of the township bordering on the stream has been, since the organization of the county, reduced fully a mile in its northwest corner.

The territory of Lincoln Township was formerly included in what was, for a short period in the early history of the Platte Purchase, known as Allen County, though subject to the jurisdiction of the Holt County court; and it was not until the organization of Atchison County, that it enjoyed the rights and privileges of a municipal division of Holt.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.

The surface of Lincoln Township is generally level bottom land, not more than six square miles being included in the uplands. The Big Tarkio enters this township from Atchison County, about the center of the north line of the northwest quarter of section 21, township 63, range 40, on a farm settled by J. VanGundy, and flows in an exceedingly serpentine course, bending into the northeast quarter of section 20, but flowing generally in a southeasterly direction through section 28, in the southern portion of which it enters the northeast quarter of section 33, in Union Township.

Schulte Lake, supposed to have been formerly the bed of the Missouri River, is a narrow strip of water in the form of a horse shoe, lying chiefly in section 8. It is about three and a fourth miles west of Craig. Northeast of Corning one mile is a

small lake at the foot of the bluff. This is known as Bertram Lake. Sharpe's Grove extends from the neighborhood of Craig a considerable distance into the eastern portion of this township.

EARLY SETTLERS.

The first white man to locate in what is now Lincoln Township was John Henry Roselius, the father of Henry Roselius, long a representative citizen of the county. He was a native of the Kingdom of Hanover, and settled in the year 1841, on section 36, township 63, range 41. This pioneer met his death by a stroke of lightning. In the following year came Henry Dankers, the father of Henry A. Dankers. Henry Peters and Andrew Buck also came about the same period, and effected settlements in the same locality. Between the early part of 1843, and the middle of 1844, came Henry Hemme, John Ahrens, and Henry Evers. In 1845 Conrad H. Walter arrived in the country and settled on section 25, township 63, range 41. This farm has long since disappeared in the bed of the Missouri River, which now flows over its site. In 1846 Henry Bertram settled in the neighborhood of the river. In the following year came James Thompson. Robert Hawke, another well known settler, arrived in 1848, and Thomas Lowell in 1852. These all settled in the neighborhood of what was once known as Hemme's Landing. Joseph Waits settled the first farm on Big Tarkio Creek. This is on the northeast quarter of section 21, township 63, range 40. It was afterwards known as the Volman farm.

The first saw-mill of any importance in Lincoln Township was operated by Bruce Earl, who later became a drug merchant of Corning and judge of the Holt County Court. He moved this mill from the bottom in Bigelow Township, and erected it at a point two miles southwest of Cornig in 1873. In the fall of 1879 this enterprise was discontinued. During Judge Earl's management of this business in the Missouri River bottom timber, he sawed up and shipped to market over ten million feet of native lumber.

The first blacksmith to locate within what is now Lincoln Township was David Bertram. He settled in a very early day at the foot of the bluffs, a mile north of the present town of Corning.

The first church edifice erected in Lincoln Township was the property of a German organization, known as St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church. The building was a frame, thirty by forty feet in extent, and was completed in the fall of 1860, at a cost of $1,500. It was on the farm of Henry Roselius, in the northeast quarter of section 1, township 62, range 41, about half a mile from the Missouri River. The organizers of this church

were C. H. Walter and wife, Henry Dankers and wife, and Henry Roselius, Sr., and wife. The first minister of this church was the Rev. Mr. Messalsky, of Nebraska. He was succeeded in 1867 by Rev. C. A. Nolte. August 13, 1870, Rev. F. W. Scholz took charge of the church. Professor Scholz also taught a private German school in Corning. The membership was reduced in 1879 to about twenty-five, a large proportion of the congregation having withdrawn to organize the church in Union Township, on the Vonderschmidt farm, west of Craig.

HEMME'S LANDING.

The first attempt to start a town in this part of the county was inaugurated by Henry Hemme, another Hanoverian, who settled in the country in 1844. This settlement, which was known as Hemme's Landing, was about two miles west of the site of the present town of Corning. Its site is now within the limits of the State of Nebraska, and the Missouri River flows within three-fourths of a mile of Corning, and considerably to the eastward of the spot where the old town once stood. At one time Hemme's Landing was one of the most important trading points between St. Joseph and Council Bluffs. The first merchant who sold goods at the landing was David Greer, who commenced business there in 1845. He was shortly after succeeded by Henry Hemme, who in 1847, gave place to Vernile Thompson. In 1848, Robert Hawke bought out Thompson.

Hawke & Dillon for many succeeding years carried on an extensive business at this point. They finally moved to Nebraska City, having sold out to Roland & Co., who in 1861, moved their goods to Rock Port, in Atchison County. In 1849, Thomas & Lowell had opened a store a short distance below, on the river bank. In 1851, John F. Lowell succeeded to the business. He afterwards sold to J. F. Taylor, and others. In 1862, E. W. Holly, of St. Joseph, bought out the concern. Audrian Hoblitzell succeeded him in 1864, and, a short time after, Conrad Grab became by purchase the owner of the store. By this time the encroachments of the river threatening the entire destruction of the place, most of the inhabitants left, taking with them their buildings, some of which now stand in the town of Corning. Grab, however, strong in the faith, hung on till almost the last moment, and finally, in the fall of 1868, moved eastward to a more enduring location.

CORNING.

This town, the most northern of Holt County, and less than one mile south of the line of Atchison County, was laid out in the fall of 1868. Its original site occupied the northwest quarter

of the northeast quarter of section 30, township 63, range 40. Martin's Addition, adjoining on the north, was laid out in the spring of 1869, by Horace Martin, of Crawford County, Ohio, a gentleman of distinguished scientific attainments, and long and honored member and colaborator of the Smithsonian Institute of Washington, D. C., and observer in the employ of the United States Signal Service. Mr. Martin was one of the earliest settlers of the town of Corning, having settled there in the month of October, 1868. The site of the town, which is in the bottom, about two miles westward of the bluff, is 893 feet above the level of the sea. It is 51 miles from St. Joseph, and 77 miles from Council Bluffs. During the period of the flood of 1881, Corning suffered severely from the overflow.

The first to sell goods in the town was Conrad Grab, who, as before stated, had been driven from the banks of the Missouri by the encroachments of that stream. This was in 1868. Shortly after Sanders Bros. opened a stock of goods in the place. The first blacksmith who established himself in the town was William Bertram. Ferris & Drake, in the same year, started the first lumber yard. Dr. J. Noel, a practicing physician, was the first of his profession to locate there. He also settled in 1868.

CHURCHES.

The German Reform Church, of Corning, a small frame building, was erected in 1878, at a cost of $900. Rev. T. Miller organized the church with a large membership. This included, with others, Peter Christen and wife, Fred Scheele and wife, Mrs. Roselius, William Bertram and wife, and William Ahlers and wife.

This congregation has not been active for several years and the building is used for commercial purposes.

The Methodist Episcopal Church, on First street, stands on ground donated by Horace Martin for the purpose of a church, and the building, a frame, 28x42 feet, was erected in the fall of 1879, at a cost of $1,000. The congregation was first organized by the Rev. E. Edwards, with the following members: William E. Hurst and wife, E. Hodson and wife, Miss Laura Hodson, E. Longwell and wife, and Homer Martin and wife. Rev. M. F. Sharp was the pastor in 1881, but of late years the congregation has not been holding services regularly.

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is the most active religious organization in Corning. Its home of worship was built in 1883 and is modern in all of its appointments. The membership numbers more than 300, representing more than 100 heads of families. This church also maintains a parochial school

which has an attendance of about fifty pupils. Both German and English are taught.

The Christian denomination has a splendid frame structure fitted with everything necessary for religious uses. The pulpit is filled by supply pastors from other congregations.

POSTMASTERS.

The first postmaster of Corning was Conrad Grab, the pioneer merchant. He was appointed in 1868. In 1869, he was succeeded by R. W. Frame. H. F. Ferris, druggist, became postmaster in 1870. He was succeeded in 1875, by J. R. Dodds, editor and publisher of the Corning Herald, and, for many years railroad agent in the place, and an enterprising and public spirited citizen. Dr. J. Noel succeeded Dodds, a short time after. In the same year (1875), H. F. Ferris was re-appointed. He continued to fill the position up to the period of his resignation, in 1879, when he was succeeded by Frank Campbell. A short time after, during the same year, C. Casler, was appointed. Joseph Hogrefe became postmaster in 1880, and was succeeded in 1881, by Milton Earl, a brother of the county judge. F. W. Walter was appointed in 1886, A. O. Dankers in 1889, Len Walters in 1893 and Fred Dege in 1897. He died in Denver, while still in office and his son, Charles Dege, was named to fill out his term. Asa L. Schooler, the present postmaster, was appointed in 1914.

The postal records of this office were destroyed by fire May 15, 1890. It became a money order office in 1883 and has always done a good business. In 1875 it had a star route to Maryville, by way of Mound City and Graham, but this arrangement was continued for only about eighteen months.

TARKIO VALLEY BRANCH.

In the fall of 1880, the Tarkio Valley Branch of the K. C., St. J. & C. B. R. R. (now C. B. & Q. R. R.) was built from Corning, in a northeasterly direction, into Atchison County. This road extends a little more than a mile and a half through Holt County.

MILLS AND ELEVATORS.

The Corning Steam Flouring Mill was built in 1871-72 by W. B. Wilson, at a cost of $6,664. George Collor purchased this mill in the spring of 1872, and subsequently effected improvements in the way of added machinery in value to the amount of $3,000. The mill operated three runs of burrs and was fitted up with all the modern improvements proper to a first-class mill.

Sedwick, Walter & Co., built, in 1881, the grain elevator

later owned by Fritz Walter. It was completed at a cost of about $6,000, and had a capacity of fifteen thousand bushels.

NEWSPAPERS.

The first newspaper started in Corning was the Herald, published by J. R. Dodds, from 1878 to 1881, in the interest of the Greenback party.

The Morning Eagle was started by Charles Tiller and Major Lyman. The Eagle suspended in February, 1882. The plant was moved to Fairfax, where the Independent was established February 11, 1882, by R. S. Graves, who afterwards was associated with the daily press in St. Joseph. He is now managing editor of a newspaper in Oklahoma City.

The Corning Chronicle was established by C. H. Smirl, November 2, 1895. It ceased publication in January, 1898. The plant was moved to Gilman City, Harrison County, Mo.

The Corning Mirror was established June 2, 1904, by Charles N. Dobyns, an experienced newspaper man who had previously been located at Craig. His plant was destroyed by fire in February, 1905, but he demonstrated that he could come back, and the same week published his paper as usual. Mr. Dobyns is a veteran newspaper man, who has spent the major portion of his life in the newspaper business in Holt County.

FIRES.

Corning was the scene of a disastrous fire June 26, 1914, when buildings and stocks to the value of $12,000 were burned. The hardware and machinery store of A. O. Dankers represented the heaviest loss, the damage being estimated at $8,000. R. E. Schultz's carpenter shop was also destroyed as was the building and equipment of the Fairfax Telephone Company.

A fire that practically wiped out the business portion of the town occurred May 15, 1890. It originated in the Anderson meat market and finally consumed the business houses of the Dankers Brothers, in which was located the postoffice; F. W. Walter, Swan & Son, S. J. Schultz, Eugene Buckminister, John W. Smith, William Reynolds, Peter Christen and the railroad depot.

SECRET ORDERS.

The Modern Woodmen of America organized a lodge in Corning in 1898. This society has a good membership and owns the hall in which its meetings are held.

The Woodemn of the World have a strong organization and

hold regular meetings. This lodge meets in the opera house.

The Improved Order of Red Men had an organization in Corning for several years and the war whoop was often heard when candidates were being initiated. The tribe has since dispersed.

SCHOOLS.

The first school building in Corning was built in the summer of 1870. It was a rather modest building but it served the purpose at the time of its erection. In April, 1893, a special school district was organized after which a brick school building suitable to the needs of that day was erected. It had a seating capacity of 125 and was well equipped, counting among its possessions a library of 500 volumes.

This building was destroyed by fire February 10, 1916. The same day the members of the school board, Professor Crosswhite, principal of schools and the county superintendent, made arrangements for opening the schools the following Monday morning in the church and opera house. On March 10, one month later, bonds for $10,000 for the erection of a new and modern school house, were voted. The attitude of the taxpayers on this proposition was clearly shown by the fact that but fifteen votes were cast against the bond issue.

BANKS.

The People's Bank of Corning was organized Nov. 12, 1891, being the first institution of the kind in the town. It began business January 1, 1892. In October, 1907, it moved into a new brick building on the principal business street, which had been erected especially for its use. It has a capital and surplus of about $25,000.

The officers of the Peoples Bank of Corning since its organization follow: H. A. Dankers, president, has served from the time of organization until the present. John A. Buck has held the office of vice-president since the bank began business. A. J. Ritter served as cashier until 1903, when he was succeeded by I. S. Dankers, who gave way in 1905 to R. F. Buck. The following year Bernhardt Christian, the present cashier, took charge.

The Bank of Corning was organized June 25, 1907, and opened for business July 12, the same year, with a paid up capital of $15,000. November 1, following, it moved into quarters prepared for its use in the Walters Block. The officers who have served this bank are: F. W. Walter, president, from date of organization to 1909, when he was succeeded by A. J. Roselius

who stayed one year. J. A. Buck, the present head of the bank, was elected in 1910. The office of vice-president has been filled by J. A. Buck, 1907 to 1910; F. W. Walter, 1910 to 1916, when A. J. Roselius was elected. R. F. Buck has been cashier since the bank was founded and J. D. Ahrens has filled the position of assistant cashier since the time of organization.

CHAPTER XXIII.

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP—ONE OF THE FEW WITHOUT A TOWN WITHIN ITS BORDERS—WHO THE EARLY SETTLERS WERE AND WHERE THEY CAME FROM—HISTORY NEW LIBERTY CHURCH—OTHER RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

Liberty Township, the north central division of Holt County, extends in an east and west direction eight miles, and in a north and south direction six miles, forming the surface of a rectangular parallelogram. This is one of the new townships, having been organized as late as 1874, out of Benton of which it was formerly a part. It is bounded on the north, in a distance of eight miles, by Atchison County; on the east by Clay Township; on the south by Benton, and on the west by Lincoln Township.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.

Almost the entire surface of Liberty Township is prairie land; besides Ross Grove, in the southern part of the township, only a small amount of timber being found, and that in the neighborhood of the streams alone. The entire area of the township is well watered by Squaw Creek and its tributaries, and also by other minor streams.

Squaw Creek enters Liberty Township in section 19, township 63, range 38, and flows in a southerly by westerly direction through six sections, entering from section 13, Benton Township. The middle branch of this creek rises in the southeast quarter of section 21, and, flowing in a southwesterly direction through a portion of eight sections. The east branch of Squaw Creek rises in the northwest quarter of section 26, township 63, range 38, and, flowing in a generally southwesterly course, unites in section 13, with the west branch, forming the main body of Squaw Creek, which here flows southward into Benton Township.

Davis Creek rises in section 10, township 62, range 38, of Liberty Township, and, flowing in a southwesterly direction through sections 15 and 16, enters Benton Township, in section 21.

EARLY SETTLERS.

Liberty Township was one of the last localities settled in Holt County and the general character of its improvements is rather above the average. A few settlers, however, located in an

early day in the southern portion of the township, when the same was included in Benton Township. Probably the first of these was Robert K. Ross, of Tennessee. He settled in what is now known as Ross Grove on the northeast quarter of section 7, township 62, range 38, near the waters of Squaw Creek, four and a half miles due north of Mound City. Among those who settled in the neighborhood about this time, or shortly after, came William Gady and John Clinger, from Indiana; Mrs. Sarah Stockwell, Henry French, Chris Shultz and Adam Avery, all from Indiana. Samuel Nay, from Illinois, settled within the present limits of the township about 1846. Tinsley Dickey, from the same state, also came about that period. William Beauchamp, from Kentucky, settled there in 1850. Five years after Fount Donan, from Kentucky, settled in the neighborhood. John Hindman and Hiram Lawrence, from Ohio, were also among the earlier settlers. J. Glick, from Virginia, settled there in 1860. Henry Miller, from Illinois, came in 1864 and William G. McIntyre, ex-sheriff of the county, settled in Liberty Township about 1867. Of late years, attracted by the superior excellence of its lands, the territory of this township has rapidly settled up with an enterprising and intelligent class of citizens. The streams on public highways are all crossed by excellent bridges, and good school houses are found in every district. Attention is also directed to the culture of fruit, for the superior excellence of which Holt County is so justly noted.

NEW LIBERTY CHURCH.

The first church building erected in Liberty Township stands on the farm of James R. Miller. On the southeast corner of the southwest quarter of section 3, township 62, range 39, is a lot including ten acres of ground, six of which are devoted to the purpose of a cemetery, and the other four, in the corner of this lot, is the church yard proper, in which stands the neat structure of the church, a frame building erected by the Missionary Baptists in 1876, at a cost of $2,100. The building is 40x60 feet in extent, and presents a plain, though neat appearancee. The congregation of this church was organized in New Liberty School House in the neighborhood of the year 1872, by Rev. E. S. Egerly, of Oregon. Among the original members were J. J. Crews and wife, H. C. Offutt and wife, David Hanks and wife and William Drury. The congregation continued to meet in this school house till the erection of the church edifice.

The church was badly damaged by a storm in January, 1885, as a result of which there was no regular pastor for several years. The church was rebuilt in 1888-89 at which time Rev. H. J. Latour assumed the duties of the pastorate. He was followed by Elder Woodruff in 1890. July 1, 1896, Elder R. M.

Rhodes again became the pastor. He served until 1899. Elder J. C. Mitchell was called in 1900 and was followed by Rev. H. P. Kelley in 1903. Rev. Spickerman served the church two years as did Rev. McGill. Rev. G. A. Purkett was called to the pastorate in 1912.

MINNESOTA VALLEY CHURCH.

The Minnesota Valley Church was built in the fall of 1883, at a cost of $1,584.30 according to the records in the possession of Walter Cannon, who has been active in the affairs of this congregation since its organization. Rev. S. N. Warner was pastor at that time. The first Methodist society in Liberty Township was formed in the fall of 1876, during the pastorate of Rev. William Bassett. When the organization became stronger the church was built as above stateed. It is owned by the Methodists, but other denominations are permitted to worship in it. A union Sunday school holds weekly sessions in this church.

The following named have served as pastors of Minnesota Valley church: Revs. William Bassett, Eri Edmonds, Samuel Taylor, W. A. Van Gundy, S. N. Warner, Julius Smith, Samuel Carothers, W. M. Sapp, J. J. Lace, E. F. A. Bittner, Lane Douglas, W. H. Hartel, W. R. Enyart, W. R. Yetter, H. J. Donaldson, F. A. Winsor, A. C. Riffe, C. E. Geisenheimer, William Vimont, J. A. Moorman, Cecil Basham, Harry K. Marge, Ernest Gimer, Reuben Barrett, B. P. Newman, J. M. Carl, J. L. Wood, C. E. Snow, W. D. Lutz. C. H. Caneman is the present (1917) pastor.

EBENEZER CHURCH.

The Ebenezer Church of the Evangelical denomination was built in the spring of 1884. The building is one of the best country churches in Holt County and cost, at the time of its erection, $2,000. This church has a membership at the present time of forty.

The pastors who have served this congregation are: Revs. Chas. Snider, Wenger, A. J. Vogeline, J. Kiser, Walters, 1892-1893; A. E. Flickinger, 1894-1895; J. Keiser, 1895-1900; F. E. Smith, 1900-1902; A. Hauptfuerer, 1902-1904; S. Briethaupt, 1904-1907; C. W. Widemier, 1907-1909; J. K. Young, 1910-1912; R. Russell, 1912-1914; A. F. Rice, 1914-1917; Carl Weiner, 1917.

Other churches in Liberty Township are: The Pleasant View church of the Presbyterian denomination. Rev. Parker is the minister. Mt. Calvary Evangelical is one of the active churches of this part of the county. Rev. Carl Werner is the minister.

The Church of the Brethren, Dunkards, and of the Latter Day Saints, are among the important religious organizations of the township.

CHAPTER XXIV.

MINTON TOWNSHIP, ONE OF THE LAST POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS FORMED IN THE COUNTY—EXPERIENCES OF SOME OF THE EARLY SETTLERS—THE TOWN OF FORTESCUE—EARLY AND PRESENT DAY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES—HISTORY OF NAPIER—SOMETHING ABOUT THE RAILROAD.

Minton Township was created by an act of the county court June 4, 1894. The official order of the court definies the boundaries of the township as follows:

"Commencing at the west line of Holt County at the Missouri River where the same joins the southwest corner of fractional section 14, township 61, range 40, thence east about one and one-half miles to the southeast corner of section 13, of said township 61, range 40; thence south one mile to the northwest corner of section 30, township 61, range 39; thence east four miles to the northwest corner of section 26 in township 61 of range 39; thence south one mile to the northwest corner of section 35, in township 61, of range 39; thence east one mile to the northeast corner of section 35, in township 61, of range 39; thence south about four and one-half miles to the southeast corner of section 22, in township 60, of range 39; thence west to the west line of Holt County in the Missouri River; thence up the said Missouri River along the west line of Holt County to the place of beginning."

This township was created upon the request of seventy citizens who petitioned the court for a more centrally located voting place than they had theretofore enjoyed. It was represented that many voters lived a long distance from either Forest City or Bigelow and that if a new township were created, with a voting place at Fortescue it would enable the petitioners to get to the polls with far less inconvenience.

Minton township represents parts of what was once Bigelow and Lewis townships. The surface of the ground is much the same as on other portions of the Missouri River bottom. Doubtless no other section of the county has enjoyed greater agricultural development. There are those living now who can remember when a bottom farm was not considered of sufficient value to justify the payment of the taxes upon it.

It is related of a settler in this section, who during the early days established himself upon the hills along the river bottom, without knowing the reason for his action he acquired eighty acres of land in the bottom. A German lad who worked for his

board and clothing became of age, and according to the custom at that time the farmer thought he would "set the young man out"—that is he would give him a start in the world. Summoning the lad to him he said:

"John, you have been with me several years now and have always been a good, faithful man. You are now of age, when you should start out for yourself. I am going to do the right thing by you. I am going to give you that eighty down in the bottom. The German stared at the man for a moment in astonishment. Throwing his shoulders back and his chest forward he snorted:

"Vell, I be shoost as liberal as you. I gives it right back to you."



FARM SCENE IN MINTON TOWNSHIP

This incident is mentioned to show the scant value that was placed upon bottom land forty or fifty years ago. At that time most of the Missouri bottom was a swamp which produced principally mosquitoes and blue stem grass. The grass was good for livestock when they could get at it, but in many places the gumbo was so thoroughly saturated with the back water from the river that the succulent blue stem was unattainable. But with the development of the drainage system and other means of making the soil tillable these conditions have passed away and the eighty which the German youth so indignantly refused could not be purchased for $100 an acre.

EARLY BUSINESS MEN.

Drury T. Easley and R. J. Poindexter were, according to the best information obtainable, the first business men in what is now Minton Township. They came to this part of the country from Franklin County in 1849 and started a small store near the mouth of the Tarkio. It is said they were reasonably prosperous in this enterprise but they listened to the call of that siren which lured thousands to the gold fields of California about that time. They did not get on well with the Goddess of Fortune, in the far west and returned to Missouri in 1852, and again engaged in the mercantile business, this time in what is now Bigelow Township.

CHURCHES.

The first ecclesiastical edifice erected within the present boundaries of Minton Township was the White Church which stood on the east bank of the Big Tarkio, on a farm owned by B. M. Beasley, in the southeast quarter of section 32, township 61, range 39. This church was built in 1860 by the Southern Methodists, at a cost of about $600. The organizers of the congregation were Isaac H. Jones and wife, Isaac Jarvis and wife, Mrs. Susan D. Beasley, Mrs. Elizabeth Poindexter, U. T. Cramer and wife and Mrs. Mary A. Spoonamore.

The first sermon was preached in this church by Rev. Mr. Dodd, of Calloway County, Missouri, on the Fourth of July, 1860. In the winter of 1871, the structure of this, the pioneer church in Minton Township, was destroyed by fire. In the succeeding summer the "Brick Church" was built by the congregation to replace the burned building. This they located on the southeast quarter of section 29, one mile south of the site of the old White Church. It was a neat building, thirty by fifty feet in the clear, and cost, when completed, $2,000. At the time it was built it was considered one of the best buildings of the kind in the county.

ISAAC HAYS.

In the chapter devoted to Forest Township mention is made of the death, at the advanced age of 104 years, of Mrs. Pope, of Forest City. Minton Township also, it appears, had her phodigy of longevity, in the person of the venerable Isaac Hays, who died in October, 1880, at his residence just within the limits of Minton Township, where the Big Tarkio enters the latter from the former township. From a notice of his life, written by the Rev. W. S. Mahan, of Mound City, Holt County, Missouri, and published in the Kansas Chief, in 1880, we quote the following:

"Isaac Hays was born in Greenbriar County, Virginia, July 28, 1778. At the age of two years he moved, with his parents, uncles and grandparents to Kentucky. They joined Daniel Boone and his pioneers in the fort where Boonsboro was subsequently built. They remained at the fort about nine years, and Father Hays, as he was familiarly known in this country, retained to the last a very distinct recollection of Boone.

"On attaining his majority Mr. Hayes moved, with his mother and sister, to Garrard County, Kentucky, and, in 1812, was married to Miss Anna Hohimer, whose parents came from North Carolina. In February, 1813, he took the place of one Samuel Davis, who had been drafted, to go with the command of the unfortunate Col. Dudley, to join Gen. W. H. Harrison, at Fort Meigs, receiving for so doing one hundred fifty-five silver dollars. He was subsequently in the disastrous engagement with the British and Indians, at that terrible massacre.

"With his fellow captives he was taken to Malden, Canada, and there paroled. Furnished with two days rations they tramped through the wilderness to their homes, and arrived on the 5th day of May.

"August 14, 1814, another draft was made and our hero drew the black bean. He was forthwith enrolled in the company of Capt. William Woods, Col. Stoughton's regiment and Gen. Adair's brigade, which was ordered to join Gen. Jackson, at New Orleans. Just previous to starting from home he united with the M. E. Church, not wishing, as he expressed it, if killed, to die in his sins. Embarking in flatboats the expedition started from the locality where Portland, Kentucky, now stands, bound for New Orleans. At Natchez, and subsequently at Baton Rouge, they were met by couriers, urging them to make all haste.

"January 4, 1815, they passed the city of New Orleans and encamped three miles below its site. On the 8th was fought the memorable battle which immortalized Jackson. Isaac Hays was one of the seven in the American ranks who were wounded. The scar of this wound, which was on his left arm, he carried to the day of his death. Father Hays, in speaking of that memorable occasion, mentioned that a ball passed through the crown of his hat, just grazing his hair, and another ball cut off part of the rim of his hat and went through the cape of his hunting shirt. He also stated that a light rain fell continually, but ceased in the afternoon, when the sun shone out beautifully. He saw Gen. Packenham's body, lying within one hundred yards of the ditch. He had been shot in the head, the bullet entering the left eye.

"March 18th Mr. Hayes started for home, with $21 loaned

him by a deserter whom he had befriended. Arriving April 27 he found his home in ashes and its contents destroyed. His wife and child, however, had escaped the flames. He remained in Kentucky till 1827, and was major of his home regiemnt of militia, elected over three competitors by 250 majority. After leaving Kentucky he settled in Indiana, but soon after moved to McLean County, where he remained a number of years. His wife dying, he returned to Kentucky and married a widow, Mary Renfrow, in the same house where he had married his first wife.

"In 1854 Major Hays moved to Holt County, Missouri, and settled near the mouth of the Big Tarkio, where he continued to reside up to the period of his death. In March, 1861, his second wife died, and he was left entirely alone, as his two sons had entered the army and his daughters were married and gone. The old major was an uncompromizing Union man, and boldly defied a gang of robbers, who, calling themselves Confederate soldiers, plundered his house during the stormy days of the rebellion.

"During the Civil war the old man made a third matrimonial venture, espousing, this time, a widow residing in Hiawatha, Kansas. He had, by this marriage, four children.

"On Major Hays' one hundredth birthday five hundred people dined with him, and mainly at his expense; and, as he was poor and a governemnt pensioner, it was resolved that when the one hundred and second anniversary arrived the same should be celebrated at the expense of his friends. Accordingly, on July 28, 1880, several hundred persons again dined with him, in J. C. Hinkle's grove, but, on this occasion, as determined, at their own expense, many of them making him, besides, small donations. Appropriate addresses were delivered by the Rev. W. S. Mahan and Gen. Wilkinson, of Mound City. The Rev. Mr. Campbell led in prayer, and the whole affair was a success enjoyed by all present."

FORTESCUE.

The land on which the town of Fortescue was built was originally owned by Bailey M. Beasley on the south side of the railroad track and by James Stuart on the north side. Dr. J. L. Minton also owned some of the land comprising the townsite. Beasley's holdings were bought by Jacob Book, now a resident of Mound City, who laid out the town in April, 1890. The plat was filed August 8, 1890. John R. Minton filed the plat of an addition to the town May 8, 1904.

The idea of building a town which later became Fortescue, originated with Bailey M. Beasley, John C. Hinkle, James Stuart

and J. L. Minton. Mr. Beasley was especially active in his efforts to interest J. F. Barnard, who at that time was superintendent of the Kansas City, St. Joseph & Council Bluffs Railroad, and who had much to do with the building of the line across the Missouri River from a point of connection with the main line at Napier. The agreement to locate a town between Napier and the Missouri River was contingent upon the land owners donating the grounds for a depot and doing the necessary grading for the side tracks. In addition to this they donated the ties for the switch tracks. Thus it is that provision was made for the building of the town of Fortescue.

BUSINESS INTERESTS.

Of course with the coming of the railroad, business enterprises began to loom up, and here and there a store building was erected. The first business house was built of frame by Bailey M. Beesley, and occupied by Wm. Crawford. On December 20, 1894, this building was desaroyed by fire, and Mr. Crawford lost his entire stock. It was rebuilt, and is now occupied by S. M. Howard & Co., general merchandise and implements, the "Company" being Judge A. W. VanCamp, at one time a member of the County Court, and a substantial citizen of the township. This building is located on the south side.

The second business house was erected on the north side, by I. M. Minton, and was occupied by the firm of I. M. Minton & J. P. Davis, and was of frame.

The third building for business purposes was of brick and was on the north side, erected by Dr. J. L. Minton, and was first occupied by Charles Craig as a general merchandise store.

I. M. Minton built a brick store and large frame warehouse. E. D. Shellenberger occupied it with a general merchandise stock in 1907. January 1, 1910, James Duke bought the stock and on August 29, 1910, the building and warehouse were destroyed by fire, and Mr. Duke lost his entire stock. This fire was the most serious in the history of the town.

Charley Craig is one of the pioneer merchants of the town, and carries a large stock of general merchandise.

Fred Rhetts and Mrs. Blanche Meyer each conducts a restaurant.

December 12, 1906, James Brown lost his stock of merchandise by fire.

June 12, 1907, the Craig drug store, Howard hardware store and the Minton office building were destroyed by fire.

SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES.

The first school house was of logs and stood on land belonging to John W. Haigler, which is now a part of the accreted land which has been the cause of much litigation between John C. Hinkle and others. The first teacher in this primitive school was Hugh H. Simpson, who later conducted a drug store in Bigelow, where he died several years ago. This old log school house burned in 1858, while school was in session and the term was finished in the smokehouse of John W. Haigler.

A new frame school was built on land owned by John C. Hinkle, further back from the river. Simpson continued to teach for several years. He was followed by a Mr. Parker and he by Edmund Anibal, father of Charles Anibal of Craig. Out of this district, in later years was formed the Idlewilde and Haigler districts. A brick house was erected in each, the one in the Haigler district being later claimed by the ever changing current of the Missouri River.

Fortescue school district, as now known, was in the territory composed of the east side of Walker, all of Lake Shore, southern part of Elm Grove and the northern part of Idlewilde. The present brick structure was erected in 1907, and it became a special school district in April, 1910.

On April 12, 1915, the proposition to consolidate the Fortescue, Walker, Elm Grove, Walnut Grove and Idlewilde districts into a rural high school, was submitted to the voters. The proposition carried by a decisive vote and bonds amounting to $15,000 were issued for the purchase of ground and the erection of a high school building.

In 1860, J. C. Hinkle hauled the lumber to build the historic old country church known as the "White Church," erected by the South Methodists on what is now the Main street of Fortescue, then thickly studded with the pawpaw and dogwood brushes and very heavy timber. The first services were held July 4 of the same year and the preaching was done by a Rev. Dodd. Among those who helped to organize this church were: A. B. Welton and wife, Amanda Shepherd, Permelia Morris, I. H. Jones, Rich Oldham. Oliver Bush, Sr. J. C. Hinkle and wife became members of this organization in 1867. The church was closed during the war. In 1872 the edifice was destroyed by fire, and the present brick structure was built one mile north of Fortescue in 1873. This church is now in a regular circuit of the M. E. church, South, and the Rev. O. C. Lockhart has this charge, who fills his regular monthly appointment. His predecessor was Rev. Capp.

BANK.

The Bank of Fortescue was organized June 20, 1914, at which time the officers elected were: A. W. VanCamp, president; John E. Slater, vice-president; and R. C. Brownlee, cashier. R. F. Poynter has succeeded Mr. Brownlee as cashier, otherwise the original officers remain unchanged. The bank has a capital of $10,000 and is doing a prosperous, profitable business.

The bank's first depositor was Irene, the 9-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Minton. The first check drawn on this bank was by John Iden.

FORTESCUE POST OFFICE.

With the great development and settling up of the section immediately surrounding Fortescue, the location of business enterprises, the demands came for a post office, and hence a petition up to Walter Q. Gresham, then Postmaster General, asking that a post office be established at that point, to be known as "Fortescue." The prayer of the petitioners was granted, and the post office of Fortescue came into existence by the appointment of Bailey M. Beesley, as its postmaster, whose commission was dated April 18, 1886. The following have served since Mr. Beasley: H. A. Bowles, 1886-87; Henry Bildelman, 1887; C. C. Hopkins, 1888; Geo. H. Minton, 1889; Wm. Crawford, 1890-91; Chas. Gray, 1891-95; T. J. Butrick, 1895-1900; Chas. Craig, 1900-1904; E. L. Craig, 1904-1906; Chas. Craig, 1906 to date.

The office was first authorized to issue money orders May 14, 1902.

ELEVATOR.

John H. Lynds, of White Cloud, Kan., who was interested in a chain of local grain markets in Kansas and Nebraska, built an elevator in Fortescue in 1900. It had a capacity of 3,000 bushels and its equipment was complete in every detail. It was destroyed by fire December 16, 1906, the loss being estimated at $15,000.

Mr. Lynds rebuilt the structure during the spring and summer of 1907. In June, 1914, John F. Iden, bought the business and operated the elevator until June, 1915, when he sold to J. W. Hill.

NAPIER.

In the extreme eastern part of Minton township is the hustling little town of Napier. While a small village, it is one

of the most important stations on the Burlington lines in this section of the state for the reason that it is the junction of what was formerly the Kansas City, St. Joseph & Council Bluffs railroad and the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, the first named being the line between St. Joseph and Omaha and the latter being the western line of what is now the Burlington system.

Napier was established as a station January 1, 1882. In 1887 the St. Joseph & Nebraska Railroad was built from Napier to a point opposite Rulo in the Missouri River. The Rulo bridge across the river was completed October 3, 1889 and was built by the Atchison & Nebraska Railroad Company. Through traffic to the west and northwest was established at once. Napier then became an important junction point and September 1, 1911, it was made a division point on the Burlington system. The town, like Fortescue, was named for an English stockholder in the railroad company.

Napier became a post office in 1883. The postmasters who have served the patrons of the office are: William Brisco, E. G. Smith, S. A. Babb, J. L. Minton and W. G. Craig. The first money order issued was on July 4, 1902, and was in favor of the Akhurst-Everly Arms Company of St. Joseph.

The Presbyterians organized a class here May 4, 1914, with a goodly number of members. Arrangements were at once made for the erection of a church building.

Among the historical events of the town are the robbery of the store of Craig & Co., November 25, 1896, and the drug store of W. A. Lowe June 13, 1907. Among the fires of importance which have visited the place was that of the W. J. Alkire implement shed September 28, 1909.

CHAPTER XXV.

NODAWAY TOWNSHIP — PHYSICAL FEATURES AND EARLY SETTLERS—ONE OF THE FIRST RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS IN THE COUNTY FORMED IN THIS TOWNSHIP—SCHOOLS—SOMETHING ABOUT THE HAMLET OF RICHVILLE—EARLY PUGILISTS.

The section of country formerly known as Nodaway Townshiy, we have already discribed as one of the two original divisions of Holt County, when the same included all of Atchison County, and a portion of the State of Iowa, embracing a greater portion of the present areas of Forbes, Nodaway, Hickory and Clay Townships. By the creation of other municipal townships, it was, from time to time reduced, till by the organization of Hickory Township June 17, 1874, it was circumscribed within its present comparatively insignificant limits of about five miles square, rendering it with the exception of Lincoln, the smallest township in the county. It is bounded on the north by Hickory Township; on the east by Andrew County, from which it is separated by the Nodaway River; on the south by Forbes Township, and on the west by Lewis Township.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.

The surface of the present township of Nodaway is varied. The greater portion, however, is either prairie or cleared timber. Most of the timber is found on the Nodaway River bluffs. Nickol's Grove, described as lying in the southeast corner of Hickory Township, extends southward into Nodaway. This grove, as before stated, was the first settled portion of this part of the county.

EARLY SETTLERS.

The first settler to locate there was Frank Nickols, a brother of Robert and John, who had settled in that portion of the grove which lies in what is now Hickory Township. Robert Nickols was the pioneer, and through his influence, John and Frank shortly after arrived in the county, the latter locating in that part of the grove included within the limits of the present township of Nodaway, as above stated. Oakley Morris, for years a resident of the township, settled there in 1840; A. C. Befan, in 1841, from Washington, District of Columbia. Among the other early settlers of this section of the county were I. W. Jones, Elias Evans, Townsend Evans, Burril Evans and Melvin Evans, from Indiana; Henry Patterson, John Meyer and

Gotlieb Meyer. David Templeton and family, also from Indiana, were among the very earliest settlers of Nodaway Township, as was also Colonel John W. Kelley, afterwards the first attorney admitted to the bar of Holt County. David Templeton arrived in the county with four sons. Monroe Templeton located near the site of what was afterwards the town of Richville. John Norvel, a native of Tennessee, but directly from Kentucky to this state, settled in Nodaway Township in 1847.

At an early period came Jacob Kunkel from Ohio, Henry Marion; W. Jones and Alexander Jones, both from Illinois; Daniel Holman from Clay County, Missouri; Ephraim Adams, Willis Brockman, A. J. Hollister, from Ohio; Beecham, Rice, the Patricks, Bornberger, Hiram Shutzer, Jesse Carroll and others, were among the earliest settlers of the township, arriving some time previous to the coming of some of the above mentioned. Richard Barkhurst, the first representative in the Legislature from Holt County, lived in 1842 on the southeast quarter of section 23, township 60, range 37, on a farm now owned by Mrs. McIntrye, in this township.

CHURCHES.

One of the earliest religious organizations in Holt County, was effected in Nodaway Township, in 1840. This was a Missionary Baptist Church, of which the Rev. Ebo Tucker was first pastor. This church, at the period of its original organization, had thirteen male members, beside their families. Among these were John Norvel, Willis Brockman, Shelton Arterbury and Thomas Wickham, also Levi Ruhl, John Robinson, Lewis Jones, John McFadden and Preston Ham. The records of this primitive church are lost, and it is impossible to obtain much more extended information of the original membership. The first meetings of this church were in groves in the summer season, and, as the country advanced, in school houses, which the intelligent pioneers, lost but little time in erecting, after their arrival in the country. In 1860, they built a brick church, on land then owned by Francis Nickols, and donated by him for that purpose. This building stands near the south boundary of the southeast quarter of section 8, township 60, range 37, west, on an eighty acre tract, now owned by the Gotleib Meyer heirs. It was originally styled Nickol's Grove Church. At the breaking out of the Civil war, the church was not entirely completed. It was, however, occupied and used for religious purposes by the one hundred and fifty-two members who composed the organization. These members were nearly, if not all, southern sympathizers and, as a natural consesuence, the church, by the fortunes of war, went down. After the rebellion a number of emigrants, chiefly Germans from the State of Ohio, settled in

the neighborhood, as the original settlers and members of the pioneer church moved away, or had failed to return after the proclamation of peace. The building stood for many years and verging upon dilapidation, a monument of the religious enterprise of the early days. It finally was torn down and the site on which it stood used for agricultural purposes. The congregation, greatly reduced in numbers after the Civil war, worshipped for a time in a school house in Richville.

The Methodist Episcopal Church at Richville, was organized about the year 1840, shortly after the Baptists. The Templetons and Evanses were among the original organizers of this church. The building, a brick structure, 40x30 feet, was erected about 1855, some five years before the village of Richville, in which it now stands, was laid out. The first Methodist preacher to exercise his calling in this township was Rev. James Baker. About 1844 the Methodists held a camp meeting in section 27, township 60, range 27, on a farm at that time owned by David Templeton, one of the earliest settlers of the county, and the first county surveyor appointed.

The beginning of the work of organizing the Evangelical church in Holt County dates back to 1865, when two families, Ulrich Burger and Adam Rung, moved from Indiana and located near Oregon. The same year Rev. H. Haas was appointed to take charge of the work in this county.

In October, 1866, Joseph Anselment and Henry and Daniel Zachman, with their families moved from Ohio to Nickol's Grove. The following winter Rev. Haas held a revival meeting, assisted by Rev. Temer. In the spring of 1867 Rev. John Wuerth was appointed to this mission and served two years. About this time the first class was organized with Adam Rung class leader and and Joseph Anselment exhorter. The following winter Rev. Wuerth began a revival meeting in the Nickol's Grove School house, but the attendance became so large that services were held in the Baptist Church in the neighborhood. From that church the meeting was moved to the Kunkel factory near Oregon.

In the year 1868 a brick church 36x46 feet was built at a cost of $3,200. This was the first Evangelical Church in Holt County. It was destroyed by a hurricane in 1879. A frame structure was built in the spring of 1880 on the site of the brick church. It was located on the northwest quarter of section 17, township 60, range 37, near the northwest corner of the farm now owned by C. L. Kunkel. The cost of the present church was about $1,500.

The original members of the Nickol's Grove Church were:

Adam Rung, Joseph Anselment, Daniel and Henry Zachman, Ulrich Bucher and Henry Smith and their wives. The first minister, by whom the original class was formed, was Rev. Henry Haas. His successors and the year in which they began their work, have been: Revs. John Wuerth and Henry Mattil, 1868; John Beck, 1869; ——McKesson, 1870; R. J. Troyer, 1872; J. H. Kipliner, 1875; E. Evans, 1877; J. S. Seip, 1878; C. Linge, 1880; E. Evans, 1882; J. H. Tobias, 1883; C. W. Snyder, 1884; L. Wenger, 1886; A. J. Voegelein, 1887; J. W. Keiser, 1890; M. Walter, 1893; A. E. Flickinger, 1895; J. H. Kiplinger, 1896; A. Solt, 1898; J. W. Keiser, 1899; H. E. Meyers, 1901; H. E. Bower, 1904; B. H. Hobbs 1907; E. T. Boelinger, 1909; C. W. Weidemeir, 1912; T. C. Dissinger, 1914; W. C. Johnson, 1916.

The church at Nickol's Grove enjoyed a splendid growth. In 1868 it had a membership of seventy. Of the membership at that time one only is living—Henry Hershner.

The German Methodists were organized from the congregation in Oregon, in 1858. In the fall of 1881 they built a frame church 44x28 feet area, with 14 feet ceiling. This is known as Emanuel M. E. Church. It was completed at a cost of about $1,500. The church edifice is about two miles east of the church of the Evangelical Association, and stands on a farm formerly the property of R. Davidson, but now owned by Kramer. The present congregation was organized by Rev. C. Herman, January, 1880 with the following members: John Hornecker and wife, Adam Smith and wife, Charles Hilsenbeck, Martin Yetter, John Abplanalp, George Hornecker, Fred Meyer, John Barts, Ulrich Burger, and Fred Meister. The wives of the above mentioned were also members of this organization, as was also Mrs. Gottleib Meyer.

The Woodville Presbyterian Church is one of the younger church organizations of Nodaway Township. It was organized in October, 1911, and has an active and growing membership. A neat substantial church building has been erected by this congregation. Rev. T. D. Roberts, of New Point, has been the minister since the church was organized.

SCHOOLS

The first school within the limits of what is now Nodaway Township was taught in 1848, by James Scott, later a resident of the town of Oregon. The building was a hewed log house. It stood on section 10, township 60, range 37, on a farm then owned by Jacob Kunkel, but now the property of John Hornecker. The schools in the township at the present time

are modern in every detail and compare favorably with the best schools in the county.

RICHVILLE

The site of what once promised to be a good inland town extends from the southwest corner of the northwest quarter to the northwest corner of the southwest quarter of section 27, township 60, range 37. It was laid out in 1860 by Thomas Templeton, a son of the pioneer. A son-in-law of Templeton, a man by the name of Gregg, was the first to sell goods there. Dresden succeeded him. During the war, Walter Lloyd started a small store in the place, and sold goods as late as 1878.

The most important building in the village, or rather in its immediate neighborhood, was the brick Methodist Church above referred to. In its best days, Richville contained but five families, and it never enjoyed the convenience of a postoffice. As a hamlet, it now exists in memory only.

Doctors Norman, Throp and Dozier practiced in the locality now known as Nodaway Township, from the earliest period of the settlement of the same, but as late as 1847 there was no resident physician within the territory included in its present limits.

Henry Hornecker, who was killed in the Civil war, and William Cook were blacksmithing there in1847.

Nodaway Township, in point of natural, as well as of added improvements, is inferior to no other portion of the county. Fruit of all kinds, which constitutes so large a portion of the export wealth of the county, is extensively grown in this township. An orchard of considerable importance, and remarkable because of its area at the time of planting was on the southwest quarter of section 18, township 60, range 37, on a farm then owned by E. C. Nazum. The farm, which included 840 acres, was formerly the property of Jabez Beaumont. The orchard planted by him in 1865 covered an entire quarter section. Three years after this orchard was set out, a fire in tall grass, communicated to the trees, destroyed eighty-five acres of apple trees in the center of the orchard. This disaster occurred in 1868. The destroyed trees were never replaced. Jabez Beaumont, who had moved from the state of Minnesota to this county, afterwards sold the 840 arce farm on which this orchard was planted to E. C. Nuzum for $26,000. Mr. Nuzum was a resident of Kansas, and the farm has been worked by renters. He sold the farm to W. A. S. Derr, the present owner, but the big apple orchard is now known only to history; the land is used for general agricultural purposes.

EARLY PUGILISTS.

A noteable incident in the history of the early settlement of Nodaway Township was a fisticuff duel which occurred in 1843, the result of a dispute growing out of the conflicting claims of two parties to the same piece of land in Nickol's Grove. These were Frank Nickols and I. W. Jones. Seconds were chosen, a circle formed, and all the formalities of the ring maintained in the presence of about 200 spectators who had assembled to witness the contest. The combatants were nearly equally matched and the victory long remained doubtful. Fortune at last decided in favor of Nickols, who took possession of the claim without further dispute.

TIMBER.

Nodaway Township, with an abundant supply of timber for all necessary uses, is also excellently well watered. Besides the Nodaway River along its entire eastern boundary, Nickol's Creek, before mentioned, flows in a northerly direction into Hickory Township, whence it flows in an easterly course into the Nodaway River.

Carroll's Branch heads in the southern part of the township and flows in a northeasterly direction, emptying into the Nodaway near the south boundary of the southeast quarter of section 14, township 60, range 37.

Mill Creek, a considerable stream of the county, rises in the southwestern part of Nodaway Township and flows in a southwesterly course into and through Lewis Township into the Little Tarkio, which it enters near Forest City.

CHAPTER XXVI.

UNION TOWNSHIP—EARLY FACTS AND FIGURES—DEFUNCT TOWNS—CHURCHES IN THE TOWNSHIP—HISTORY OF CRAIG—BUSINESS MEN OF PAST AND PRESENT DAYS—NEWSPAPERS, BANKS AND SECRET ORDERS—FLOODS—SOME MISCELLANEOUS FACTS.

Union Township is bounded on the north by Lincoln Township and is well watered. The Big Tarkio from Lincoln Township, enters Union in the northeast quarter of section 33, township 63, range 40, and flows in a generally southeasterly course, passing wholly or in part through fourteen sections, and making its exit from section 32, in its southeast corner. John E. Hearl built, many years since, a water-power gristmill on the northeast quarter of section 30, township 62, range 38, just south of the section line. This is at a point called from the circumstance of the Little Tarkio flowing within three hundred yards of the channel of the Big Tarkio, whence it flows out of Union Township in section 32, measured, when first surveyed, 136 links in width. Carl Shults built on its site what is now known as Little Tarkio grist mill, a water-power later owned and operated by Mr. Stumbo. The Guilliams' water power grist mill, three miles above Craig on Big Tarkio, in the northwest quarter of section 34, township 63, range 40, was in operation as early as 1855-1856. It operated two run of burrs. The Little Tarkio enters Holt County by two branches, one in section 19, and the other in section 20, township 63, range 40. In 1841 J. Wallace and A. Martin settled on its banks. They were the first to locate in that neighborhood.

The bluff range entering Union Township in section 34, township 63, range 40, extends in a southeasterly direction, leaving its limits in the northeast corner of section 17. Nearly three-fourths of the area of this township is bottom land, and, with the exception of a heavy belt two or three miles wide of timber along the river bank, is generally prairie. This is all settled, and much of it is in a high state of cultivation, and enormously productive. Some excellent improvements also exist in the upland districts to the eastward of the bluff range.

EARLY SETTLERS.

The first locality settled, in what is now Union Township, is also the oldest settlement in the northwest part of the county. It is known as Sharpe's Grove, and is a mile or two north of the present town of Craig.

The original settlers of the grove were W. A. and Abraham Sharpe, who came from Bracken County, Kentucky, in the fall of 1841, and settled in their present homes in that locality. John Wise also came in the same year. Jacob Rugh came from Pennsylvania, in 1842, and settled in Sharpe's Grove. In the same year came Joseph Scott, Daniel Hoghan, and J. Kelzi. Daniel David, of Indiana, later a prominent citizen of the town of Oregon, and Charles David, his son, once a merchant of Craig, settled in what is now Union Township, in 1843. In the same year came Joseph Scott, Samuel Thompson and A. McDonald, who died many years ago. They also were among the earliest of those who settled in the grove.

Colonel Hughes and his son-in-law, Samuel Russell, were among the earliest settlers in the bottom region of the township. The first farm across Little Tarkio, near the bluff, was improved by Abner Norris, who was among the earliest settlers of the county. Mr. Norris, afterward moved to Iowa. J. B. Wright first settled in the bottom, but subsequently made his home in Sharpe's Grove. L. Dawson was also a very early settler. In 1844 also came George Heir, A. Hoppy, William Beauchamp and A. J. Williams; C. M. Guilliams, Alfred C. Taylor and C. C. Cunningham settled in the township in 1845.

DEFUNCT TOWNS.

The earliest attempt to start a town in the territory included within the present limits of Union Township, was inaugurated by the Lewises. Lewisville was laid out on section 19, township 62, range 40, by Jasper G. and Elizabeth Lewis, March 6, 1850.

On the adjoining section, 20, Marietta was laid out, four years after, by Barlow Lewis. S. C. Collins and David Templeton surveyed the sites,. These towns never amounted to much more than mere wood landings for boats.

The small stores started at these points proved failures, and were early abandoned. The sites of these still born enterprises have long since crumbled into the insatiable maw of the turbid Missouri, and, but for the faithful chronicles of this history, would soon be forever lost to the memory of man.

A once noted point in what is now Union Township was in the southeast quarter of section 34, township 63, range 40, on the main road leading from Ellington's Ferry to Council Bluffs. This was a station on the stage line, and as early as 1841 a man by the name of Daniel Durbin, a noted character of those days, kept a hotel here. The structure of his hotel was a double log house. He also kept a ferry here, across the Tarkio, before the bridge was built. Durbin moved to California in 1844, and was killed there. This ferry was also known as Army Ford.

CHURCHES.

The first church erected within the present limits of Union Township was built by the Christians, in 1877. It is a frame building 40x60 feet in extent. It stands near the northwest corner of the southwest quarter of section 35, about four miles south of the town of Craig, and within one-half mile of the southern boundary of the township. It is named, in honor of Joshua Kelso, "The Kelso Church." The two acres of land attached to this church was deeded to the same by Calvin Guilliams. The congregation was organized by Elder Kelsey. In 1879 the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was permitted to occupy the building when not required for the services of the owners of the same.

Three miles west of Craig, the Evangelical Lutheran Church, a frame building, 22x36 feet in extent, was erected in 1877, at a cost of $400. The congregation was organized with ten members. The first minister of this church was Rev. C. F. Scholz. He effected the organization and remained in charge till November, 1881, when he was succeeded by Rev. C. H. Leutsch.

It is doubtful if there is a more prosperous country church anywhere than the St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran church, three miles west and one-half mile south of Craig. The official title is the German Evangelical Lutheran Church, Synod of Missouri, Ohio and other states.

The church was first organized in 1876 and for a number of years the congregation worshipped at Corning, the pastor at that time being Rev. C. F. W. Scholz.

In August, 1881, the membership living west of Craig decided to withdraw and form a church of their own. A meeting was held in a school house near where the church now stands. An organization was soon perfected and arrangements made for the building of the church edifice which now serves the congregation. Several of the original members have since moved to other states, but withal the congregation has grown steadily. At the expiration of the time of Rev. Scholz in 1880, Rev. C. Lentzsch was engaged. He came from Nebraska and remained until his death in June, 1900. In November, 1910, Rev. P. T. Schmidt of Arkansas was engaged as pastor.

CRAIG.

Craig, a town of commercial importance in the county, is also the business center of Union Township. It occupies the southeast corner of section 11, and the northeast corner of sec-

tion 14, in township 62, range 40, on the main line of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, which was completed to this point in the summer of 1868. The town limits extend to the waters of the Big Tarkio, which, at this point, is spanned by an iron King bridge, 105 feet long, erected in 1881, at a cost of four thousand dollars, just after the great flood of April of that year, in which the original structure was swept away. The railroad bridge, a few hundred yards above, is also a substantial iron structure on massive stone piers, and was erected in the same year.

The site of the town is a dead level in the Missouri River bottom which, at this point is eight hundred and eighty feet above the level of the sea. It is about half a mile southwest of the bluff range, in full view of the forest of Sharpe's Grove.

The town of Craig was laid out early in the fall of 1868, by the original proprietors, Robert W. Frame, Christ Shults and Samuel Ensworth. Its present population is between 600 and 700. The town was named for Gen. James Craig of St. Joseph, who was active in the building of the railroad which called the town into existence.

The first to sell goods in the place was A. W. Hawley. He began in the fall of 1868. Immediately after, Shults & Frame, who were selling goods and keeping a post office, called Tarkio, in a house one and three-quarter miles northeast of the site of the town, moved their stock to the new town and commenced business. This Tarkio was nearly a mile below the noted watering place, one-half a mile east of Craig, and is still known as the Big Spring. It is at the foot of the bluff, and was a regular halting place on the great route from St. Joseph over the hills via Savannah, Fillmore and Hollister's Mill, to North Point, afterwards Mound City, whence the road followed the foot of the bluffs to the crossing of the Little Tarkio, where the state road branched off to Rock Port. The trading post of Tarkio remained at this point, on the Little Tarkio, till the growing importance of the new town of Craig absorbed its business.

The first blacksmith to open a shop in Craig, was J. A. Orange, who, in September, 1868, erected the first building in the town and opened it as the Grant and Sherman House. This he continued to keep till 1873, when he sold out. The building, which has since changed hands several times, has been considerably enlarged and improved since that day.

Shults & Frame opened, in the same year, the first stock of goods in the town. They afterwards moved their building from Tarkio to the townsite.

The first physician to settle in Craig was Dr. John T. Shep-

ard. Dr. B. Meek, and Dr. Hanlin came afterward. April, 1870, Dr. J. L. Johnstun located in the town, and the other physicians moved away.

C. Hoblitzell started in February, 1875, the first lumber yard in Holt County, built, in 1874, the first elevator in the town. Its capacity was ten thousand bushels.

The first school in the town of Craig was taught by C. A. Doughty, in the original frame school building on Frame street, later owned by the Christians, and occupied by them as a church.

The elegant structure of the graded school stands on the east end of the same street. It is a spacious two-story brick building with four class rooms, halls, etc., affording accommodation for 240 scholars. The house was completed in January, 1882, at a cost of over six thousand dollars.

Dr. J. T. Sheperd opened the first drug store in the town.

In 1869 James Campbell started the first livery stable in the place.

The first railroad agent of Craig was Frank Briggs. He began his duties here in 1869. A. M. Hunter became the agent in 1872 and remained until 1905 when he resigned, having been in the service here continuously for thirty-three years. He was the oldest station agent on the Burlington system in point of years of service. Mr. Hunter died October 4, 1910.

CHURCHES.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1870. Among the original members were: Abel Doughty and wife, C. A. Doughty and wife, and E. McQuilen and wife.

The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was organized in 1878, by Rev. Dr. Bain, with the following members: J. T. Sedwick and wife, William Price, S. Stanfield, and Charles David and wife.

The first church building erected in Craig was by the two Methodist societies. Each organization being entitled to the use of the building half of the time. This house was built by a committee representing both congregations and was composed of J. T. Sedwick, Charles David and C. A. Doughty. In 1894 the M. E. Church sold its interest in the building and lot to the M. E. Church, South, and immediately began the erection of a church building at Fourth and Ensworth streets. This was completed and dedicated in January, 1895. In 1908 the two Methodist congregations were merged, by the action of the Missouri Con-

ference, the building of the M. E. Church, South, being used. This church now has a membership of about 125.

The Presbyterian Church, of Craig, was organized in June, 1878, by the Rev. Duncan Brown, of Mound City, with the following members: Dr. S. Bacon, W. B. Wilson and wife, A. M. Hunter and Mrs. E. E. Welch. The church edifice, a brick building, 30x55 feet, was completed in December, 1878 at a cost of $3,200. It stands on West Front street. The original trustees of this church were W. B. Wilson, S. S. Bacon, and A. M. Hunter. The first pastor of the congregation was the Rev. Duncan Brown. He was succeeded in June, 1880, by Rev. B. D. Luther.

The Christian Church of Craig was organized February 4, 1880, by Elder G. B. Mullis, with ten members. Of these, Samuel Peters and H. Laughlin were chosen elders, and E. Davis and Moses Wright were chosen deacons. The other members were Delitha Laughlin, Dal Laughlin, Sarah J. Wright, Victory Peters, Rachel Collins and Sallie A. Davis. Since the period of the organization of this church there have been added, fifty members. In the fall of 1881, the congregation purchased the old frame public school building and fitted it up as a house of worship. This they continue to use for that purpose. The organization is in a prosperous condition, and includes a membership of sixty.

This congregation a few years ago built one of the handsomest church buildings in the county. It cost about $3,000 and has a seating capacity of 600. It is not lacking in any of the appointments and conveniences which are essential to a modern church building.

FRATERNAL ORDERS.

Craig Lodge No. 371, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons was organized July 14, 1870, by Hiram Patterson, district deputy grand master. The following were the officers at the time of organization: C. A. Doughty, W. M.; W. R. Nelson, S. W.; Chris Schultz, J. W.; Dr. Berry Meek, Treasurer; J. L. Blair, Secretary. This lodge grew and prospered for a number of years when internal dissensions disturbed the good fellowship of the brethren, and in January, 1883, Grand Master Wood revoked the charter. A reorganization was brought about May 28, 1909, when the younger men of the community petitioned for and received dispensation to perfect the organization. A charter was granted the new lodge under the name of Craig Lodge No. 606, September 29, 1909. The officers at the time of the reorganization were: P. A. Thompson, W. M.; T. A. Ward, S. W.; C. W. Anibal, J. W.; J. M. Stokes, Secretary; W. J. Randall, Treasurer.

Craig Lodge No. 211, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was instituted June 11, 1869, by Worthy Grand Master R. J. Wise, assisted by Samuel Hess and William White of Eclipse Lodge No. 143 and Thomas C. Crowther of King Hill Lodge, No. 114 of St. Joseph, Mo. The charter members of the original lodge were Charles E. Barnes, Lawrence Welch, Wilson McKinney, T. F. Farnsworth and John Elmore.

For some reason the lodge in the early '70's quit working and remained dormant for a period of about eight years, when it was resuscitated through the efforts of Hiram Hershberger, of Oregon, Mo., as district deputy. Those who participated in the reorganiaztion in May, 1886, were W. M. Boyer, Joseph Wise, J. W. Stokes, J. L. Johnston and Henry Bungenstock.

In the fall of 1915 the lodge decided to establish a cemetery for the burial of the deceased members of the order and their families. A tract of land was bought near town from E. L. Gaffney and immediately converted into the purposes for which it was purchased. The cemetery committee of the lodge, in conjunction with the trustees, had charge of the matter, were C. W. David, L. L. Teare, J. H. Hunt, H. B. Lawrence, W. S. Thompson, Fred Lawrence and W. B. Fitzgerald.

Craig Camp, No. 5140, Modern Woodmen of America, was chartered November 15, 1897, with a membership of thirty-one. The first officers were C. W. Anibal, consul; S. C. Wampler, adviser; L. J. Butler, banker; J. H. Riffe, clerk; W. E. Graves, escort. The camp now has a membership of more than 100 and about $200,000 of insurance in force. It is comfortably housed in its own building, free from debt and seems likely to continue prosperous for many years.

For-Get-Me-Not Camp, No. 4248, Royal Neighbors of America, was instituted June 16, 1905, with twenty-two charter members. It is still in a thriving and prosperous condition.

Craig Rebekah Lodge, No. 645, was chartered February 6, 1915, and has an enthusiastic membership of 100. A Rebekah lodge had been started in Craig January 31, 1894, with a membership of twenty-nine. Through neglect and lack of interest its charter was allowed to lapse.

NEWSPAPERS.

The first newspaper venture in the town was the Craig Democrat, by Harry A. Buell, in February, 1872. It ceased publication in April the same year.

The Enterprise was established by C. H. Clark, early in 1877. Clark remained on the job until October, 1878, when he sold to H. S. Hogue, who continued the publication until July,

1879, when he removed the plant to western Kansas.

The Craig Gazette was established in December, 1879, by G. H. Bryant, who continued until June, 1881, when he moved the plant to Nebraska.

In 1882 the Craig Meteor was established by VanPelt & Blake who were then conducting the Atchison County Mail and moved part of the equipment of that office to Craig where VanPelt was actively in charge of the Meteor. In 1883 VanPelt became the sole owner of the plant, which he disposed of in April, 1884, to Elder Maupin and his son, Will M., who was afterwards associate editor of the Commoner at Lincoln, Nebr., and identified with various other publications. Maupin & Son, eight months later sold the paper to George L. Burkhalter, who continued its publication until the fall of 1886 when he moved the plant to Rulo, Nebr.

In the fall of 1886 C. N. VanPelt established the Craig Leader. He continued as its publisher until January, 1887, when he sold to Charles N. Dobyns, who remained until March, 1904, when Byron Johnstun took charge. He sold to Ivan Whitted in May, 1907, who, on July 12, the same year, suspended publication. W. H. Hambaugh revived the paper November 15, 1907, and has owned the paper ever since. It was leased in January, 1910, to G. A. Sterling, who published the paper until June, that year, when he delivered it back to Hambaugh. I. W. Watson leased the plant in June, 1910, but surrendered his lease a few months later. Since January, 1911, Mr. Hambaugh has been in active charge of the paper, which bears every indication of being a prosperous, influential country newspaper.

In October, 1896, Ed. S. Hayes, who had disposed of the Democrat at Oregon, located at Craig and established the Courier. It ceased publication in September, 1897. October 3, 1897, the paper was revived under the name of the Democrat-Courier, with John M. Hasness, as publisher. The plant was owned by a stock company. Hasness died in January, 1900, and the stockholders put Shafe Kautzman, a printer from Nebraska, in charge. The hyphenated title was abolished in a few months and the name returned to The Courier. In December, 1900, the paper ceased publication and the machinery and type were bought by Ed Kennish and moved to Maitland, and added to the plant of The Herald in that town.

The Peoples' Call was established by C. H. Smirl in 1891, and lived but a short time.

The Press was established by Byron Johnstun in 1901 and ceased publication after a few issues.

In September, 1905, the Craig Mirror was established by

Clara Dobyns, as an annex to the Corning Mirror. It was discontinued in October, 1907.

POSTMASTERS.

The post office was originally called Tarkio, the name being changed in 1869, to Craig in honor of General James Craig, who was conspicuous in the building of what is now the Burlington railroad. Tarkio was about a mile northeast of the present townsite of Craig. It was quite a trading point and it was here that Christ Schultz and Robert W. Frame sold goods until Craig began to grow into a town of real proportions. The old Tarkio post office building is still standing on lands owned by George W. Gaskill.

Craig was added to the list of money order offices in 1878 and became a presidential office in 1901. The first rural delivery route was established November 1, 1901, and Al VanWormer was the first carrier.

Those who have served the patrons of the Craig post office in the capacity of postmasters and the years of their appointment are: Christ Schultz, 1868; E. D. Richmond, 1872; H. S. Hogue, 1875; Robert Lyon, 1879; John Ward, 1883; John H. Williams, 1886; George Hogrefe, 1889; L. L. Teare, 1893; Charles M. Ward, 1897; Phil Thompson, 1905; Frank K. Allen, 1911; W. H. Hambaugh, 1915.

ELECTRIC LIGHTS.

On the evening of February 6, 1902, there was celebrated in Craig the event of the installation of an electric lighting system of which the town was justly proud. The enterprise was a private one and the improvement in the towns public utilities was due to the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Kellogg, then owners of the Eclipse Roller Mills. The power plant at the mill was used in connection with the lighting machinery and this arrangement continued to give satisfactory service for a number of years. The plant was bought by Brownfield & Teare in January, 1912. The current is now supplied by the Mound City plant.

BANKS.

The first bank established in Craig was by Bilby & Heaton, July 7, 1877. W. H. Heaton became the sole owner in April, 1882. And the name was changed to the Heaton Bank. Cave J. Hunt was cashier until May, 1882, when Ed. Heaton assumed the duties of the office. In February, 1887, William H. Heaton removed to Bushnell, Ill., and Ed. Heaton assumed active man-

agement of the bank in Craig, although William H. Heaton has continued as president to the present time. R. C. Ball has been assistant cashier for the past twenty-seven years. The bank had a capital of $10,000 at its inception, but this has since been increased to $25,000.

The second bank established in Craig was known as the Farmers' and Merchants Bank. It began business July 17, 1893. It was founded by Dr. Benson Bond, who died in 1902, after which the business was managed by E. J. Kellogg as president and Mrs. C. D. Kellogg, cashier.

MILLS AND ELEVATORS.

A. P. Davenport built the first flour mill in Craig in 1874. It was a two run mill and did a flourishing business from the start. He sold the property to Reece & Gibson in 1879. Maxwell & Gibson began operating the mill in 1887. W. A. Robinson, of Watson, built a new mill in Craig in August, 1899. Later it was owned by E. J. Kellogg.

The first elevator in Craig was built in 1874 by Johnstun & Meyer, who continued the business for several years. In 1895 F. S. Brownfield, at a cost of $18,000, built a large elevator and flouring mill in Craig. It was destroyed by fire December 5, 1897. The Farmers' Elevator Company was organized in May, 1912. J. S. Nauman is president.

CRAIG SCHOOL.

The Craig school building compares favorably with that of any other town in the county. The present building was erected in 1881 and rebuilt in 1896. Furnace heat was added to the equipment in 1903. The records of the school district back of 1899 are unavailable, as they were destroyed by fire in that year.

The following named have served as principals of the Craig schools: N. B. Newlon, 1902-1904; A. Jackson, 1904-1907; W. S. Summers, 1907-1908; Edna Ralston, 1908-1910; Ida Kyler, 1910-1912; Edith Clary, 1912-1913; Lena Cole, 1913-1916; Dema Wilson, 1916-1917.

F. L. Maxwell was the first superintendent of schools in Craig. He served 1898-1899 and was followed by W. A. Cochran, 1899-1900; W. Lee Jordan, 1900-1901; L. R. Thompson, 1901-1905; J. F. McDale, 1905-1907; Ellis G. Cook, 1907-1908; Edward F. Schiefelbusch, 1908-1909; Guy Ensor, 1909-1911; V. A. Schiefelbrusch, 1911-1912; H. B. Tibbels, 1912-1915; W. L. Butts, 1915-1917.

The present members of the school board are: W. S. Thompson, president; C. W. Anibal, vice-president; W. T. Crews, secretary; E. H. Scrivner, J. C. Ottman.

FLOODS.

Craig, in common with neighboring towns along the line of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, in the Missouri River bottom, was a sufferer, to a great extent, by the ever memoriable flood of 1881. On the 24th day of April, the water of the Missouri River, at its nearest point, five miles distant from the town site, and which, some ten or twelve days before, had burst from the ice gorge below Yankton, swept over the town. By Wednesday following it had reached its maximum height, two feet higher than the water of the great flood of 1844, and stood from two and a half to three and a half feet deep in the streets and houses. The flood then began to recede, and by the following Sunday, had disappeared, leaving behind a fearful wreck of matter and crash of things. The entire population of the town, with a few exceptions, during the period of the high water, had left for the bluff country. So tremendous was the force with which the inundation approached, that railroad ties with rails attached, were in many places floated off the grade.

Among the incidents of the flood at this point, it is remembered that a corn crib sixty feet long, twelve feet wide and as many high, floated from its foundations, and was seen pursuing its rapid course southward from the town. A close inspection revealed the further circumstance that the roof was tenanted, not, however, with dispairing sons and daughters of men, but with a flock of domestic chickens, in the center of which stood a solitary skunk, apparently brooding, amid the appalling desolation of his surroundings, over the certainty of his impending fate, and utterly oblivious or unmindful of the feathered banquet within his reach.

Craig also suffered severely from the floods of 1914 and 1915, but the damage to property was not nearly so great as in 1881. The drainage system which has been adopted in the nearby country greatly reduces the liability of damage from overflows.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A telephone system was put in operation in May, 1901, by the Craig Telephone Co. It is capitalized for $12,000 and gives service to 400 patrons.

The original town plat was filed January 14, 1869.

Craig was incorporated August 10, 1869. George Jester

was chairman of the board of trustees, the other members being J. B. Airingdale, C. Schults, A. J. Orange and Alf Garret.

July 7, 1870, Craig became the voting place for Union Township.

Independence day was first celebrated July 4, 1870.

Craig became a city of the fourth class April 12, 1881.

The town was divided into two voting precincts October 6, 1902.

Biographical

WILLIAM M. HAMSHER.

William M. Hamsher, president of the Bank of Mound City, and one of the highly respected citizens of the town, has been a resident of Mound City forty-two years. He came here in 1874 and engaged in mercantile business with Emil Weber—the firm name being Hamsher, Weber & Co., in the building now occupied by William McKee. The firm continued in business here for sixteen years. The partnership of Hamsher & Weber continued three years more, when Mr. Hamsher bought the interest of his partner and continued the business for thirteen years, until 1893.

Then he engaged actively in the banking business and has since been president of the Bank of Mound City, of which institution he was a charter stockholder, the bank beginning business in 1889. He is also a stockholder and director in the Holt County Independent Telephone Company.

Mr. Hamsher was born in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, December 17, 1849. He was brought up on a farm and received a common school education. He remained on the farm until he was sixteen years old, when he went to Orrstown, Pa., and clerked in a store four years. Then he went to Monmouth, Ill., and worked four months in a store. Not being satisfied there he moved on farther west and in 1871 accepted a position in the store of Ford & Orr, in Forest City. In 1874 he moved to Mound City and has since been active in the business life of that town.

He is the son of John and Mary Hamsher, natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. Hamsher was married October 12, 1875, to Miss Mary Luckhardt of Oregon, Mo., who was born in Johnston, Pa. To this union has been born one son, Clarence F. Hamsher who is in the banking business in Los Gatos, Calif. Mr. Hamsher is a member of the Masonic lodge and Presbyterian church. He has been an elder in that church for thirty-five years.

THOMAS A. WARD.

Thomas A. Ward is the vice-president of the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank of Craig. He is a son of one of the pioneer families of Union Township, where he was born, and is a highly esteemed and prominent business man of the town in which he makes his home. Although a young man he entered actively into the civic and commercial life of Craig, and by his conserva-

tive business methods is making his bank one of the recognized financial institutions of Holt County.

Thomas A. Ward is the son of Thomas B. Ward, who came to the county in the early eighties and by thrift and economy acquired a section of fine farming lands in the county and valuable property in Craig, where he now makes his home. He was a Confederate soldier in the Civil war. He married Alice Sharp, member of one of the well known early families of the county. Three children were born to this union, only one of whom survives, Thomas A., of this sketch. Tilda and Frank both died when about twelve years of age.

Thomas A. Ward was married October 15, 1905, to Miss Allie Angel, who was born at Fairfax, Missouri, and who is the daughter of Albert and Annie Angel. Mr. and Mrs. Ward have one son, Thomas A., Jr.

Mr. Ward is a member of the Masonic lodge of Craig, and is a present member of the Craig Board of Education. He is a large owner of Holt County real estate.

RICHARD E. DECKER.

Richard E. Decker is cashier of the Bank of Mound City and for a number of years was engaged in the insurance business in Mound City. He was born in Richardson County, Nebraska, October 17, 1860. In the spring of 1861 the family moved to Holt County and lived near Mound City for a year or two. After the war they moved to Corondolet, a suburb of St. Louis. Later they moved to Carroll County, Missouri, and in the fall of 1870 returned to Holt County, where Mr. Decker has since resided. He received a common school education and a course in the Chapman Business College in St. Joseph.

He remained on the old homestead in section 35, township 62, range 38, of Clay Township until his marriage September 23, 1895, when he moved to his own farm in section 34, township 62, range 38, Benton Township, where he lived until 1897, when he moved to Mound City and formed a partnership with Amer Crannell, under the firm name of Crannell & Decker. This firm engaged in the insurance business and continued until the death of Mr. Crannell in September, 1906. Mr. Decker continued the business alone for about a year. He entered the Bank of Mound City in 1907, as cashier.

He is the son of Albert Decker, a native of Lima, N. Y., who migrated to Holt County in the early '50's. He died in Mound City January 9, 1907.

Richard E. Decker married Miss Edmonia E. Gibson at Brownsville, Nebr., September 23, 1895. Mrs. Decker is the

daughter of James W. and Miranda Gibson, who were among the early settlers of Nemaha County, Nebraska. Mr. Decker is a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge. He owns 160 acres of fine farm land in sections 27 and 34, township 62, range 38, Benton Township.

B. H. WATSON.

B. H. Watson, cashier of the Holt County Bank of Mound City, has been connected with this banking institution for the past thirteen years. He began as bookkeeper, then was assistant cashier and in 1912 was made cashier. He is one of the live business men of the town and never fails to assist in anything that will make Mound City more prosperous, more progressive or a better place in which to live.

Mr. Watson was born in Monroe City, Mo., December 11, 1882, and is the son of William M. and Frances (Thompson) Watson, born in Kentucky and Missouri, respectively. He was educated in the Mound City high school and the Kirksville high school. He came with his parents to Mound City in April, 1901.

He was married July 12, 1912, to Miss Helen Groves, a native of Mound City and the daughter of Joseph and Cora Groves, early settlers in Holt County. They have one son, B. H. Watson, Jr. Mr. Watson is a member of the Odd Fellows and Woodmen of the World lodges.

Mr. Watson is one of a family of four children, the others being: Bessie, wife of Dr. J. J. Spencer, of Savannah, Mo.; William, who died in infancy and Nellie of Mound City.

CHARLES W. CRAIG.

Charles W. Craig, merchant and postmaster, at Fortescue, has been a resident of Holt County since 1891. He was born in Clearmont, Nodaway County, Missouri, December 14, 1876. At the age of thirteen years he moved with his parents to Holt County and located on a farm south of Mound City. They lived there three years when his father bought the J. L. Minton stock of goods at Napier, where he has since resided.

Charles W. remained with his father at Napier until September, 1900, where he clerked in the store. He then moved to Fortescue and bought the John R. Minton stock of general merchandise, and has since been in business there. He was appointed postmaster in April, 1911.

He is the son of William G. and Julia (Kelley) Craig, natives of Putnam County, Indiana and Andrew County, Missouri, respectively.

The senior Craig moved to Andrew County when quite

young and grew to manhood there. He then went to Maysville, DeKalb County, Missouri, where he was in the mercantile business. He was at Clearmont twenty-five years, two years in northern Iowa and has since lived at Napier.

Charles Craig has been married twice, the first time December 25, 1901, to Anna Banks, who was born in Holt County and died February 4, 1903. Mr. Craig married again October 25, 1905, to Joie Ann Lowe of St. Joseph, Mo. They have one son, Charles William George Craig.

Mr. Craig was made a Mason in 1901, joined the Woodmen of the World lodge in Bigelow in 1902 and the Odd Fellows lodge in Mound City in 1903. He is a member of the Fraternal Aid lodge in St. Joseph having joined that order in 1914. He has taken fourteen degrees in Masonry, being a Scottish Rite Mason of the St. Joseph Lodge of Perfection No. 6.

WILLIAM R. HILL.

William R. Hill, owner of the flour mills in Mound City, known as the Mound City Mill Company, is one of the live businessmen of the town. This enterprise, which has been known by its present name since it was chartered in 1887, manufactures high grade flour, its leader being the Big A. Another of its specialties is the manufacture of cracker flour for the big biscuit companies. The capacity of the mill is 250 barrels a day. Mr. Hill is a thorough mill man and has been in the business for a number of years.

He was born in Page County, Iowa, March 21, 1873, and grew up on his father's farm, which is still in the family and which his father settled in the late '60's. He attended the country schools in Iowa and college at College Springs, Iowa, several terms. He farmed on his own account several years and then went into the milling business at Shambaugh, Iowa, in partnership with his brother Edward, where he was located until May, 1915, when he bought the Mound City Mill Company. He still retains interests in farm lands in Iowa and owns several properties in Shambaugh.

Mr. Hill is the son of James H. Hill, a native of Ohio. He was married at Shambaugh, Iowa, October 28, 1896, to Miss Gladys M. Long, who died November 10, 1910. Of this union there are four children living, Gertrude Marie, Harry Hapburn, Gerald Maurice and Catherine Louise, all living with their father in Mound City. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen and K. P. lodges and of the M. E. Church, having been an active worker in that church since a boy. Mrs. Hill was the daughter

of George G. and Mollie F. Long and was a lifelong member of the Methodist Church.

JOSEPH R. COLLISON.

Joseph R. Collison, one of the pioneer merchants of Holt County, is at present, the senior partner in the firm of J. R. Collison & Son, proprietors of the Broad Gauge general merchandise store in Maitland. He came to Holt County in June, 1859, landing at Forest City with his parents in a river steamer, his father having located there three years previous. The family came from London, England, direct to Forest City, where they lived until 1864, when the senior Collison bought a farm in Clay Township, which is now owned by Elijah Rowlett. There Joseph R. grew to the age of 21, when he began teaching, having been educated in the public schools and the Oregon high school.

Mr. Collison taught school two years and then located in Dotham, Atchison County, where he opened the first store there. After a year in Dotham, he moved to New Point, where he formed a partnership with Clark F. Barnes. Barnes & Collison continued in the general merchandising business for three years when Mr. Collison sold to his partner. He moved to Maitland in 1844, and has been in business there ever since. He began in a small way in the building now occupied by Hodgin Brothers. He remained there twelve years, when the building became too small for his rapidly growing business. In 1895 he formed a partnership with his brothers A. W. Collison, and Charles T. Graves and incorporated the Broad Gauge Mercantile Company, which built a new brick block on the opposite corner. In 1906 the company was dissolved and Mr. Collison and his son, Ralph W., bought the interests of the other partners.

He is the son of Richard and Mary Ann (Rollins) Collison, both natives of London, England. They are now residents of Maitland. Joseph R. Collison was born in London. He was married May 13, 1880, near New Point, to Miss Belle Oren, daughter of Levi Oren, a prominent business man in Holt County in his day, and at one time county treasurer. They have three children: Ralph W., with his father in the mercantile business; Mrs. Leslie Linville, of Maitland; and Charles B., a traveling salesman for a St. Joseph jobbing house.

Mr. Collison is a member of the Knights of Pythias and Woodmen of the World lodges.

JAHUGH G. HINKLE.

Jahugh G. Hinkle is one of the pioneers of Holt County, and the son of John C. Hinkle, one of the best known and largest

farmers in Minton Township. The subject of these paragraphs resides on his farm of 160 acres where he has lived since the spring of 1886. The farm was first bought by his father and was part of the James Inks land. When Mr. Hinkle first moved to this farm it was mostly unbroken land and without improvements. It is now one of the best appointed farms in Bigelow Township, with good buildings, all of which Mr. Hinkle has placed upon the property.

J. G. Hinkle was born on his father's farm in Minton Township, November 13, 1860. He remained with his father until 1886, when he moved to the farm on which he is now living. He attended the district schools in Walnut Grove, Idlewilde, Elm Grove and the old Hinkle school which was swallowed up by the Missouri River in the early '80's at the same time it took away several hundred acres of Hinkle land. He also attended the Missouri State University one term.

He was married March,18,1886, to Miss Mary McKinnon, who was born in Braddyville, Ia., and is the daughter of James and America McKinnon.

Mr. and Mrs. Hinkle have three children: Leroy, who married Nellie Alkire and resides in Bigelow Township; Susan, who married E. C. Poynter and lives at Mendon, Mo.; Bryan C., who is yet at home. Mr. Hinkle is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge.

JOHN S. SMITH.

John S. Smith has been president of the Holt County Bank in Mound City since 1900 and it can truthfully be said that it has been largely through his efforts and ability in this line of work that this bank has grown to be one of the solid financial institutions of Holt County, and is thoroughly in the confidence of the people. He is a native born son of Holt County, where he has lived all his life. He was born on a farm in Nodaway Township April 11, 1855. He is the son of Sheldon M. and Sarah Smith, who came to this country from Ohio. Besides his banking interests, he owns considerable valuable land in Holt County and has extensive business interests in Kansas, Oklahoma, Colorado and other states.

Mr. Smith is a thirty-second degree Mason and an Odd Fellow. He has served on the Mound City school board, holding the office of president for the past thirty years. He has been an important factor in the progress and growth of his native town.

Mr. Smith was married July 19, 1874, to Miss Mary N. Denmark. To them have been born nine children, four of whom

are living: Bertha B., wife of Henry Harmon of Custer, Okla.; Charles C.; Helen H., wife of C. T. Hall, assistant cashier of the Holt County Bank; and Colene, a graduate of Hardin College.

In June, 1916, Mr. Smith was honored by being appointed by the secretary of the State Historical Society, one of a committee of five leading citizens of Holt County to represent the vocations, industries and institutions of the county at the celebration of the Centennial of the State of Missouri, and was made chairman of that committee.

Mr. Smith was first engaged in the hardware and lumber business with Hoblitzell, Smith & Jesse. Afterward he bought the interests of his partners and ran the hardware store for several years. Then he went into the banking business with Zook & Thomas. In 1887 he became connected with the Holt County Bank as cashier, and became president in 1900.

In addition to his other activities Mr. Smith is chairman of Squaw Creek Drainage District No. 1, which was organized in 1900, when bonds amounting to $80,000 were issued.

DR. FRANK E. HOGAN.

Dr. Frank E. Hogan has been practicing medicine in Bigelow since 1903. He was born in Farley, Ia., November 24, 1876, where he was educated. He studied medicine four years in the Central Medical College, St. Joseph, graduating in 1903. He located in Bigelow at once and has been very successful in his efforts in behalf of those who suffer from human ills. He is considered one of the leading physicians of the county. He is a member of the county, state, national and American Medical associations. He is Burlington surgeon at Bigelow. He built his present fine office and residence in 1907.

Dr. Hogan is the son of Daniel and Elizabeth Hogan, natives of Ireland and Pennsylvania, respectively. He was married in 1906 to Mina Jones.

He is a member of Masons, Eastern Star, Woodmen of the World and Yeomen lodges, being local physician for the last two named. He has also served on the school board and town council.

DAN NOLL.

Dan Noll, a merchant, came to Mound City in 1874, and while yet a young man, has witnessed the changes that have made the town one of the best in all Northwest Missouri. The Villisca branch of the Burlington railway had not been built

through when he came to Mound City at the age of three years, and there were but a few stores in the place, among them being those of William Hamsher, grocer; R. C. Glenn, furniture and drugs; J. V. Hinsman, drugs; Smith & Andes, general merchandise; "Grandpa" Dean, restaurant; Ed. Muxlow, hotel; William King, postmaster; John Hart, 10 cent peanut stand; John Gibson, blacksmith; Steve Graves, blacksmith; Dr. Meek and Dr. Tracy.

Dan Noll was born in Freeport, Ill., January 13, 1870. When one year old the family moved to Pennsylvania, where they lived until 1874, when they took up their residence in Mound City, where Dan has since resided. He attended the Mound City schools for twelve years, his teachers being Mrs. Bacon and Prof. Drake, the latter one of Holt County's early educators who died in the winter of 1915. His early scholars were chosen pall bearers at the funeral, among them being Mr. Noll of this sketch. After his school days Dan clerked for E. D. Shellenberger seven years and the same number of years for other merchants of the city, since when he has been in business for himself, first running a restaurant in the store room formerly occupied by J. G. Melvin. Later he engaged in the general merchandise business and still later again conducted a restaurant where Claud Clark is now located. He formerly owned the eighty-acre farm west of Mound City which he sold to Dr. C. N. Smith.

Dan is the son of Jacob Noll, who was born in Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, June 19, 1843, and Sarah Ann (Wenzel) Noll, who was also born in that state on June 19, 1849. They were married in their native state and were tavern keepers in the early days there. They came to Mound City in 1874, where they now make their home. They have four children: Dan of this sketch, Jacob S., Elmer and Blanch Spargur.

Dan Noll was married at Beatrice, Neb., July 3, 1891, to Miss Cora A. Bennett, who was born in Benton Township, Holt County, and is the daughter of M. J. Bennett, deceased, and Anna Andes Bennett. Mr. and Mrs. Noll are the parents of four children: Ruby, wife of W. H. Herwig, of Chillicothe, Mo.; Iva M., wife of G. S. Randall, of Kansas City; Wenzel, a high school student, and Mamie, at home, also a high school student.

Mr. Noll has been a member of the Woodmen of the World since 1894, being a charter member of Mound City Camp No. 21. He is also a member of Holt Lodge, No. 341, I. O. O. F., and has held all the chairs in both these lodges. He also holds membership in the Ridgeley Protective Association of Worcester, Mass. Mr. Noll served on the board of aldermen from the North ward for four years, and for four years was a member of the Missouri National Guard, Company B, Fourth Regiment.

CHARLES J. BUNKER.

Charles J. Bunker is the junior member of the Fitts-Bunker Mercantile Company, the only exclusive dry goods and furnishings store in Oregon. It is located on the north side of the square in the Kneale building and is one of the successful, progressive business concerns of the town.

Mr. Bunker has lived in Oregon all his life, with the exception of the years 1889 to 1893, when he lived in St. Joseph and had charge of the cigar department of the old Steele & Walker wholesale house. Returning to Oregon in 1893 he entered the employ of J. C. Fitts in the dry goods store of which that gentleman was proprietor. In 1904 he formed a partnership with Mr. Fitts and the business was incorporated. Mr. Fitts then went to Kansas City, where he is president of the Maxwell-McClure-Fitts Dry Goods Company, one of the important wholesale houses of that metropolis.

Mr. Bunker is the son of William P. Bunker, who came to Holt County from Uniontown, Pa., by boat on the Ohio and Missouri rivers, landing at Forest City in the early '60's. His wife was Elizabeth Collins, a native of Muncie, Ind. He was a wagon maker by trade and was in that business in Oregon for a number of years. He was also a clerk for W. H. Sterrett, one of the early merchants of the town, over whose store the first session of the courts were held in Oregon. Mr. Bunker died in 1872. He was the father of four children: Mrs. Lena Christy, who died in 1902; Charles J., Carey E. and Stella, who died in infancy.

WILLIAM H. ALKIRE.

William H. Alkire, collector of Holt County, was born in Minton Township, December 28, 1878. He is the son of Will J. Alkire, a native of St. Charles County, Missouri, who came to Holt County in 1854. His wife was Martha J. Boyd, a native of Salem, Nebr. Mr. and Mrs. Alkire still live on the farm on which they first located. William is one of a family of five children, all of whom were born in the county and still live within its confines.

William H. Alkire attended the common schools of the county and finished his education in the Stanberry Normal School. He was graduated from that institution in 1897. He then taught school for eight or nine years after which he engaged in the mercantile business in Forest City, where he remained until his election to the office of county collector in 1914, a four-year office and is serving the people acceptably as a public servant.

He was married to Miss Cora M. Van Camp, March 17, 1901. Two children have been born to them: Garry Van and Inez I. Fraternally Mr. Alkire is a member of the Masonic, Odd Fellows, W. O. W. and Eastern Star lodges.

ROY C. KUNKEL.

Roy C. Kunkel, one of the active business men of Oregon, was born November 6, 1876, on the farm one mile east of Oregon which his grandfather, Daniel Kunkel, Sr., settled in 1847. When about twelve years old he moved with his parents to Oregon, and was educated in the public schools. He graduated from the high school in 1896. He moved to St. Joseph in the fall of 1896 and for several years held an important position in the car service department of the Burlington railroad. In 1902 he moved back to Oregon and formed a partnership with Robert G. Ruley, the firm name being Ruley & Kunkel. They are in the lumber, coal and paint business and have one of the largest and best appointed lumber yards in the county.

He is the son of Daniel Kunkel, who came to Holt County with his father Daniel Kunkel, Sr., in 1847, as before stated. The family figured prominently in the early history of the county and did much to develop the latent resources of the county.

The subject of these paragraphs was married Aug. 8, 1897, to Miss Flora Zachman. She is a native of Holt County, having been born four miles northeast of Oregon, and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Zachman. To this union has been born one son, Kenneth Leroy, who was born October 14, 1901, and died December 25, 1916.

Mr. Kunkel is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge and the Evangelical church. He has been superintendent of the Sunday school of that denomination for the past twelve years. He is also a member of the city council and has assisted in many ways in the development and advancement of the town in which he lives.

ANDREW O. DANKERS.

Andrew O. Dankers, recorder of deeds of Holt County, was born in Lincoln Township, February 28, 1865. He has lived in Holt County uninterruptedly since his birth. He was educated in the schools of the county and the Gem City Business College in 1885 and 1886. During the latter year he started into the mercantile business in Corning, and continued to sell merchandise there for twenty-nine years. In the fall of 1914 Mr. Dankers was elected county recorder for a term of four years.

The subject of these paragraphs is the son of Henry A.

Dankers, one of the leading residents of Lincoln Township and one of its earliest settlers. The senior Mr. Dankers was born in Germany May 20, 1835. He came with his parents to the United States when but six years old. They came first to New Orleans, from whence the family traveled by steamboat up the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers to Weston, in Platte County, where they bought an old wagon, a yoke of oxen, four cows and started for Holt County, which they reached in August, 1841, and where John H. Roselius, also from Germany, had preceded them the previous spring and settled in Lincoln Township, near the Missouri River, which was then a tract of waste, unbroken bottom land. Indians were the only inhabitants and they shared the solitude with the gild game which was found everywhere in abundance. The old home was in section 36. Mr. Dankers became one of Holt County's best and most extensive farmers and acquired several thousand acres of land. On January 20, 1863, he married Elizabeth Gunkel, who was born in Germany and came to the United States when a child. They had six children: Melinda, Andrew Irvin, Rebecca Anna, Frederick, Charlie and Ella.

Was married to Miss Anna Berry July 19, 1893. Miss Berry was born in Holt County and has lived here from childhood. They have five children: S. Owen, Henry A., Genus, Valera and Margery. Mr. Dankers is a member of the Woodmen of the World lodge.

MORTON R. MARTIN.

Morton R. Martin is a native born Oregon boy. He was born in that city November 21, 1878, and has since lived there, with the exception of the time he spent in school elsewhere. His early education was in the schools of Oregon. He graduated from the high school in the class of 1897. He then attended the Missouri University, 1897-1898.

At that time the City of Oregon was building its waterworks and electric light system. Mr. Martin was employed as superintendent and electrician. He finished the construction of the plant and was, until 1917, in active management of the property.

He is a stockholder in and secretary and manager of the Oregon & Forest City Telephone Company, known as the "Home phone." He is also secretary and manager of the St. Joseph Transmission Company, a company recently organized for the purpose of building high tension transmission lines for the distribution of electric current for light and power purposes in northwest Missouri. This company is capitalized for $60,000.

Mr. Martin is the son of D. M. and Emma W. (Wilson) Mar-

tin, both born in Indiana and for many years residents of Oregon. He was married January 21, 1902, to Miss Elsa Bennett, who was born in Oregon and the daughter of Mrs. D. E. Bennett, who was a native of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Martin have two children: Bennett, age twelve years and Daniel R., age six years. Mr. Martin is an Odd Fellow, a thirty-second degree Mason and Shriner.

JOHN W. ROGERS.

John W. Rogers is the man who, with his big steam dredge, dug the seven-mile drainage ditch through the valley lands south and west of Mound City in 1904 and 1905, for which the district, comprising about 30,000 acres was bonded in the sum of $80,000. This was known as Squaw Creek Drainage District No. 1. He also dug the Mill Creek Drainage Ditch at Forest City, the Big Tarkio ditch at Corning and enlarged and straightened ten miles of the lower end of Wolf River in Doniphan County, Kansas.

He is known as one of the best and most thorough drainage contractors in the state, and has followed that occupation for the past twenty-three years. He has resided in Mound City since 1903, where he has permanently located and where he has many warm friends. Mr. Rogers was born in Manito, Ill., May 19, 1861. He lived on a farm until twenty-one years old. After clerking in a store for several years he took up the work of dredging and levy building and the building of drainage ditches. He has followed this occupation continuously since. Among the big contracts to his credit are several in Louisiana, where he was engaged for nine years.

Mr. Rogers was married at Peoria, Ill., January 22, 1889, to Ida M. Johns, the daughter of Samuel and Emily E. Johns. Mr. and Mrs. Rogers have one son, Dr. Charles E. Rogers, an osteopathic physician at Idaho Falls, Idaho. Mrs. John W. Rogers is a graduate of the American School of Osteopathy at Kirksville, Mo., and has practiced her profession in Mound City successfully since June, 1910.

Mr. Rogers is a member of the blue lodge of Masons at Manito, Ill.; the chapter of Masonry at Pekin, Ill.; the commandery at Havana, Ill., and the Shrine at St. Joseph. He is also a member of the Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen of America at Mound City.

CHARLES E. MUNN.

Charles E. Munn is proprietor of the Delpheus theater at Mound City. He has also served in the capacity of city clerk and superintendent of the city water system. He, with W. F.

Bragg of Oregon own 370 acres of land in Bigelow Township. He has been active in the public and business life of Mound City since 1901.

Mr. Munn was born in Grundy County, Missouri, September 13, 1870. He lived on his father's farm there until sixteen years old when the family moved to Trenton, Mo., where young Munn grew to manhood and was educated. After graduating from the Trenton High School he took a course in the business college at Cameron. At the age of nineteen he went to northwestern Kansas and was a cowboy on the Round Top A ranch of the Northwestern Cattle Company. In 1893 he was in the grand rush incident to the opening of the Cherokee Strip. He then went to Waukomis, Okla., and engaged in the grocery business. He was on the plains in Kansas and Oklahoma for three years and had experiences in frontier life that were thrilling and educational.

From Oklahoma he went to Leon, Iowa, and engaged in the lumber business, from 1895 to 1901. Then he moved to Mound City and took charge of the Hubacher Lumber Yard, where he remained until 1908, when he went to Oregon and formed a partnership with W. F. Bragg to engage in the hardware business. This he sold and returned to Mound City in the fall of 1913. He is the son of John H. Munn, a native of Scioto County, Ohio, who traces his lineage back to the Revolutionary heroes of 1776.

Charles E. Munn was married in Oregon, November 28, 1907, to Lucy B. Bragg, a daughter of Thomas and Emma Bragg. He is a member of the Masonic, Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias lodges.

Mr. Munn was a charter member of the militia company organized in Mound City in 1904 and served as first sergeant until the company, which was known as G Company, was disbanded in 1907. When L Company was organized in Mound City in 1916 he was made first lieutenant and served with the company during the time it was stationed on the Mexican border in the fall of that year.

Religiously Mr. Munn is a Presbyterian, being treasurer and an elder in the church of that denomination in Mound City.

J. POWELL HINES.

J. Powell Hines, who lives on his farm of eighty acres in Liberty Township, was born in Monroe County, West Virginia, where he lived until 1885. He came to Holt County that year settling first at Craig. He worked on farms in the vicinity in

which he lives for several years. He and his brother, George Hines, rented a farm from Arch Sharp, and farmed it two years. He then rented a farm now owned by Simon Norman for one year. Then he was married and moved to the farm now owned by Ed Browning. Afterward he moved to the Robert Russell farm where he lived eight years. Then he moved with his father-in-law, Peter Dearmont and they farmed together twelve years. His next move was to the farm he now occupies, which he bought from John Walker, and which he has greatly improved. His wife also owns the southwest forty of the old Dearmont place.

Mr. Hines was born April 22, 1861. He grew up on his father's farm where he remained until he was twenty-one years old. He is the son of Joseph P. and Lucy Alderson Hines, who came from old Virginia families. The subject of this sketch was married at the Dearmont home in Liberty Township in February, 1891, to Miss Lucy Dearmont, who was born in Clark County, Virginia, and came with her parents when five years old to Holt County. She is the daughter of Peter and Mary Bell Dearmont. Mr. and Mrs. Hines are the parents of two children: The eldest, Lucy, died at the age of fifteen months. Bertha Bell is now nineteen years old. Mr. Hines is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge at Mound City. He is a Baptist and his wife and daughter are Presbyterians.

CAPTAIN CHAUNCEY H. GRAVES.

Captain Chauncey H. Graves is city collector of Mound City and one of the old time blacksmiths of that place. He was born in Jacksonville, Ill., June 9, 1845. Soon after his birth the family moved to Georgetown, Ky., where they lived four or five years, then returning to Illinois, where he grew up and learned the blacksmith trade.

He enlisted in May, 1862, in Company A, 68th Illinois Infantry, with which company he served until mustered out at Camp Butler. He re-enlisted in Company K, 154th Illinois Infantry and was promoted to second and then to first lieutenant and later received all but three votes in the company for captain, but this honor he refused because of the lack of arms in the company. He served until September 18, 1865, and was mustered out at Nashville, Tenn.

The war over he returned to Illinois and in January, 1869, moved to St. Joseph. In March the same year he moved to Mound City. Later he lived a few years in Bigelow. He returned to Mound City in 1881 and began blacksmithing on his own account. He retired from business in 1909 and is now serving his fourth term as city collector. He organized in Mound

City at different times two companies of the State Militia, and was captain of both companies. He was elected major and later lieutenant-colonel of the Fourth Missouri N. G. M.

Captain Graves was married January 11, 1872, to Martha A. Bridgeman of Holt County. They have two children: Fred A. Graves of Portland, Oregon, and Mrs. Agnes Faust of Lincoln, Nebr. He was a member of the city council when the waterworks and other improvements were installed in Mound City. Politically he is a Democrat.

FRED A. EDWARDS.

Fred A. Edwards is junior member and manager of the firm of Edwards & Crawford, owners of the Maitland lumber yard. This yard was established by Hoblitzell & Pinkston, when the town of Maitland was but a few years old. Later it was bought by the T. W. Ballew Lumber Company who sold to Edwards & Crawford March 3, 1913. At the same time they bought the L. E. DeBord Lumber Company's yard and consolidated the business of the two institutions. This company now carries one of the largest stocks in the county, all under shed. They handle cement, paints and all kinds of building material.

Mr. Edwards was born at Moulton, Iowa, April 24, 1874. When a baby the family moved to Albia, Iowa, where the subject of this sketch lived until twelve years old. Then the family moved to a farm east of Centerville, Iowa, where he lived until he became of age, when he started into the lumber business. He worked for the W. B. Ballew Lumber Company one week when he was promoted to the managership of the company's yard at Lovelia, Iowa. He remained at that place two and one-half years, the last eighteen months being with the Hawkeye Lumber Company which had bought the yard at that place. He was then transferred by the Hawkeye people to Albia. He remained with that firm ten years, the later years being spent at Mt. Ayr, Iowa, as manager. He came to Maitland in March, 1913, and has since been in business here with Mr. Crawford.

Mr. Edwards was married December 24, 1903, to Miss Catherine Cobb, of Lovlia, Iowa. They have three children, Frederick, Francis and Robert. He is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge in Maitland and the Yeomen lodge in Mt. Ayr, and M. E. Church in Maitland. He was elected mayor of Maitland in the spring of 1917.

Mr. Edwards is the son of Morgan and Fannie A. (Clark) Edwards, natives of Ohio and Iowa, respectively.

RICHARD E. SCHULTZ.

Richard E. Schultz, contractor and builder, has been a resident of Corning for the past twenty years. He was born in West Prussian Province, City of Danzig, Germany, November 19, 1862, where he learned the cabinet maker's trade and worked there until he came to the United States in 1891.

He settled first at Rock Port where he worked at carpentering five years. Then he came to Corning where he has since lived. He built his own seven-room house, and has made it modern by producing his own electricity for lighting purposes, the plant being located in his shop in the same block. He has built nearly all of the new and modern homes in Corning, as well as some of the business buildings. His activities in his chosen vocation extended into Atchison County and he has given invariable satisfaction to his patrons.

The subject of these paragraphs is the son of Rudolph Schultz who came to the United States in 1866 and engaged in the shoe business in Rock Port. He died in 1874.

Richard Schultz was married in Germany October 18, 1885, to Annie Borchard. They have eight children: Mary, wife of Dr. George McBride, of Magna, Utah; Willie M. and Arthur E., traveling salesmen; Johanna, wife of Lew Peugh, of Magna, Utah; Paul R., who works with his father; Walter, Juanita and Francis, living at home. Mr. Schultz is a member of the Woodmen of the World, Bankers Life of Des Moines, Iowa, lodges.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HADDAN.

Benjamin Franklin Haddan of Mound City is head miller for the Mound City Milling Company, owned by W. R. Hill. He was born in Madison County, Iowa, November 30, 1873. When he was eleven years old the family moved to Gage County, Nebraska, where Benjamin F. grew to the age of sixteen years and attended the schools of Wymore, Nebr. He then moved to Kansas City and Southern Missouri. In April, 1887, he moved to Mound City and resided there seventeen years, during which time he was engaged in painting and paper hanging for several years. He then took up the business of milling and in 1893 entered the flour mills of the Mound City Milling Company, where he was employed until 1901. He then went to Falls City, Nebr., and took charge of the mill at that place. From there he went to Hamburg, Iowa, and took charge of the Hilsizer flour mills there. His next move was to Forest City where for four years he was in charge of the flour mills in that city.

Mr. Haddan then took a theatrical turn of mind and was with the Peters Pavillion Players as musician and doing extra

turns on the stage. He then returned to his trade and ran the White Cloud Mills. He filled similar engagements in Lincoln, Nebr., Hamburg, Iowa ,and Sweet Springs, Mo., before returning to Mound City in 1911, where he has since made his home. However, in 1913 he was in Tecumseh, Nebr., and Shambaugh, Iowa, as head miller for W. R. Hill, his present employer, who Mr. Haddan succeeded in interesting in and purchasing the Mound City mill, of which he is now a stockholder.

He was married in Mound City, September 26, 1894, to Miss Cora A. Maple, a daughter of George Maple. They have two children living, Bjomie Juanita and Harry Vincent Haddan. Mr. Haddan is a member of the Masonic lodge.

ALPHONSO M. TIBBELS.

Alphonso M. Tibbels, attorney-at-law and prosecuting attorney of Holt County, has been a resident of Mound City since November, 1911. His ability as a lawyer was soon recognized, as he was made prosecuting attorney before he had been a resident of the county more than a year. He has built up a successful practice and is a man of congenial nature, a good mixer and has many friends throughout northwest Missouri.

He was born in Grant City, Mo., April 17, 1871. There he grew to manhood and gradauted from the high school. After teaching school for three years in Worth County he entered the law office of Kelso & Schooler at Grant City. After reading law for three years he was admitted to the Worth County bar. That was in the fall of 1895. Several months later he was appointed assignee for the Bank of Sheridan by the circuit court. He moved to Sheridan where his parents then resided and for two years combined the practice of his profession with the duties of assignee of the defunct bank. He practiced in Sheridan and Parnell until he moved to Mound City in November, 1911.

Mr. Tibbels is a Republican and in the fall of 1912 was elected prosecuting attorney, his opponent being Don Hunt, a native son of Holt County. He was re-elected in 1914, without opposition. Again in 1916 the voters honored him with a re-election, establishing a precedent for the third term in this office in the county.

He is the son of Thomas C. Tibbels, a native of Adams County, Ohio, a man of exceptional educational ability. A. M. Tibbels was married at Sheridan, Mo., May 22, 1895, to Miss Ethel Van Sandt. They have three children living, Averil and Sybil (twins) and Zella. One son, Ronald, was born March 22, 1899, and died May 30, 1916. Mr. Tibbels is a member of the Masonic and Eastern Star lodges.

JAMES F. RHODES.

James F. Rhodes, who owns and lives on his farm of 155 acres on Big Lake, in Minton Township, has been living in Holt County since before the Civil war. His father, John T. Rhodes came here before the days of that terrible conflict, and located on the James Wilson farm near Fortescue. He enlisted in the army and served during the war. He is now living with his son James at the age of 85 years.

James F. Rhodes was born in Mercedes County, California, November 10, 1857. He came to the county before the war and has been a resident here ever since. He was a poor boy and had to help support his father's family. He began work on a farm at forty cents a day. He was frugal and thrifty and by careful saving he accumulated enough to buy fifteen acres of land, which is part of his present farm, borrowing part of the money with which to make the purchase.

He prospered from that time and at one time owned several hundred acres. He is now the possessor of 259 acres which he has improved and made productive. Some of it was in timber when he acquired it, but he has transformed it into one of the best farms in this part of the county—and there is none better. He began with nothing and now enjoys a competence, all through his own work and management.

James was married November 5, 1882, to Melvina Clark, who was born in Benton Township, the daughter of Charlie and Lucinda Clark. They have four children living: Myrtle, wife of George Dixon, living on her father's farm; Charles, married, living on his father's farm; Lorie, wife of Essa Ramsey, living in Minton Township, and Lena, wife of Lawrence Missey, living on Big Lake. Mr. Rhodes is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge at Mound City and the Woodmen of the World at Bigelow.

Mr. Rhodes has built two houses on his place, one for his daughter, Mrs. Dixon, and one for his son Charles.

GEORGE W. POYNTER.

George W. Poynter, cashier of the Bank of Bigelow, has been a resident of that town for fifteen years, locating there at the time the bank was organized. He has practically been the head of the institution from the first, and it is largely through his business ability, foresight and conservatism that this bank has grown to become one of the most substantial business institutions in Holt County. He is the son of William M. Poynter, a native of Hart County, Kentucky, where the family were early residents and became prominent in the affairs of that part of the state.

The senior Poynter came to Holt County in the early days and farmed southeast of Oregon for a number of years. He moved to Cass County and established the Bank of Creighton, Mo., and later founded the Citizens' Bank of Avalon, Mo. This he sold to his sons, Emery and William L. Poynter. In 1912, in company with A. W. and John L. Chuning he established the Bank of Bigelow, of which his son George, the subject of this sketch, has since been cashier.

George W. Poynter was born in Andrew County, Missouri, November 12, 1880. His parents moved to Holt County when he was about one year old. He was given a high school education in Oregon and for two years clerked in the Citizens Bank in that town. He then moved to Bigelow to engage in banking as stated. He was married to Miss Mabel Graham, in Kansas City, Mo., a daughter of Joseph H. Graham, who for many years lived in Holt County. Mrs. Poynter died April 21, 1912. A son and a daughter were born to this union: Joseph W. and Georgia F. Poynter. Mr. Poynter was married the second time to Miss Jennie McKee, of Bigelow and a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. N. McKee. They have two children: Harold R., and a daughter, Lucy Lee, born April 16, 1916.

Mr. Poynter belongs to the Masonic Blue lodge at Oregon, the Royal Arch Chapter at Rock Port and the Lodge of Perfection at St. Joseph. He is secretary of the Big Tarkio Drainage District and one of the commissioners.

JUDGE GEORGE W. COTTON.

Judge George W. Cotton is a retired farmer and one of the early settlers of Holt County, coming here before the Civil war. He is a large land owner and one of the prominent citizens in the southern part of the county. He owns 197 acres in Holt County and 630 acres in western Kansas.

Judge Cotton was born in Washington County, Kentucky, February 29, 1844. When about five years of age the family moved to Holt County, settling in Forbes Township, and, with the exception of a few years spent in Kansas, has lived in that part of the county ever since. He began farming in 1865, and, after one year, went to Kansas and farmed there. After a while he returned to Forbes Township, bought land and has since made numerous additions to his landed interests, until today he owns 767 acres. During the past twelve or fifteen years he has lived a retired life. He moved to the town of Forbes, where he owns considerable property.

He is the son of James and Ann (Carrier) Cotton, natives of Kentucky. They were the parents of a large family, only two

of whom are living, James of Oklahoma and George W., the subject of this sketch.

Judge Cotton has been twice married. The first time in 1865 to Miss Lucinda Guinn. There were seven children, six of whom are living: Arthur J., of Forest City; Albert W., of Oregon; Mrs. Anna Quick, Mrs. Alice Jamison, Mrs. Effie Murray, of Texas; Mrs. Myrtle Curtis, of Colorado. He was married again in May, 1903, to Miss Cora Evans, who was born in Holt County.

Judge Cotton has served two terms as judge of the County Court from the southern district. He served three years in B Company, Fourth Missouri Cavalry during the Civil war.

FOUNTAIN DONAN.

The grandfather of Fountain Donan, deceased, was from Wales and emigrated to America, settling in Virginia. Later he moved to Kentucky. Fountain Donan was born in Hart County, Kentucky, September 1, 1830, and was the son of David C. and Elizabeth Donan. In 1850 he went to California and mined gold in the Deer Creek and Yuba River regions. He returned to Kentucky in 1852 and engaged in farming and distilling until the spring of 1856 when he came to Missouri, locating in Holt County the next fall. He was a surveyor, dealer in land, etc., until the fall of 1858 when he went to Colorado, where gold had been discovered the previous year. He was among the first to reach the gold fields and was on the site of the present city of Denver when there was nothing there—not even a single cabin.

Returning to Holt County in July, 1858, he began improving his farm in section 18, Liberty Township. Previous to the Civil war he was deputy surveyor and surveyed much of the land in Holt County. In 1861 he enlisted in the Confederate service and served under Price in the battles of Lexington and Blue Mills. In 1863 he made another trip west, going to Colorado and Montana. He returned to Holt County in 1867.

He was married September 10, 1871, to Miss Mary Ashby. He lived on his farm until the fall of 1892 when he moved to Mound City. He died there February 22, 1916, in his 86th year. Mr. Donan was an ardent Democrat in politics. Religiously he was affiliated with the M. E. Church, South.

John Donan, dealer in grain, feed and coal in Mound City, was born on his father's farm July 9, 1873. He lived on the place until his marriage when he moved to his own farm in Liberty Township. In 1910 he moved to his present home ad-

joining Mound City, which is part of the old Grossbeck place. He was married February 11, 1896, to Miss Anna E. Zeigler, of Garden City, Kans. They have one son, Dwight F., born November 22, 1896.

ASA L. SCHOOLER.

Asa L. Schooler, merchant and postmaster at Corning, has been in business there for five years. He is the senior member of the firm of Schooler Bros., dealers in general merchandise. He also is senior member of the firm of Schooler Bros., of Fairfax. He came to Corning in October, 1912, and opened a new stock of goods in the old Smirl building. They did business there fourteen months when they built the brick store they now occupy. They carry a very large stock, size of town considered, their invoice totaling about $15,000.

Asa L. Schooler was appointed postmaster July 1, 1914. He has since put in new fixtures and located the postoffice in a new building.

Mr. Schooler was born near Fairfax, Atchison County, Mo., September 21, 1872. He remained on the farm with his father until his twenty-seventh birthday. Then he taught school three years after which he organized the firm of Erwin & Schooler to engage in the general merchandise business in Fairfax. In less than a year he bought Erwin's interest and five years later his brother Charles H. Schooler became interested in the store. Two years afterward Harvey H. Schooler entered the firm and the three have since done business as Schooler Brothers.

Mr. Schooler was married December 4, 1903, to Miss Zennah Harris of Mound City. They have two children, La Vetah G., and Carroll D. Schooler. He is the son of E. Heath Schooler who came to Atchison County from Virginia. Mr. Schooler is a member of the Odd Fellows and K. P. lodges. He was educated at Fairfax and Central College, Fayette, Mo.

SIMON G. KIEFER.

Simon G. Kiefer, one of the prosperous business men of Forbes, is proprietor of the largest general merchandise store there. He handles a large and well selected stock of dry goods, notions, groceries, shoes, etc., and has demonstrated that he has the ability to go ahead in the world. He came to Forbes twenty years ago and worked two years for Judge Pullen. He saved $12 and borrowed $35 more and went into the restaurant business. He continued in that business for six years, adding merchandise stocks from time to time. His present large business is the outgrowth of that modest beginning. He owns half a sec-

tion of land in Oklahoma, which pays him well. He also owns the building in which his store is located, his residence and two warehouses in Forbes, a lot in St. Joseph and property in Delhart, Texas.

Mr. Kiefer was born in Belleville, Ill., July 27, 1860. When one year old the family moved to Doniphan County, Kansas, where he lived until twenty-two years old. Then he went to Portland, Ore., where he remained a year, going from there to California and then to Washington. He worked in lumber camps and with threshing crews in these states. He first located in Forbes about twenty-four years ago. After a short while he went to St. Joseph, where he lived two years, then to Herman, Mo., where he secured work on a steamboat and also had charge of a grading outfit. He lived in Herman about two years, after which he lived six months in Doniphan County, Kansas, after which he located in Forbes permanently.

He is the son of Simon and Christine (Rothman) Kiefer, both born in Baden, Germany. He was married August 28, 1892 to Miss Adelia McAfee, a daughter of Charles McAfee, an early settler of Holt County. They have two children living: Charles F. and Mary Kiefer, both living at home. Mr. Kiefer has been a member of the Forbes school board for twelve years.

WOODY POSTAL.

Woody Postal is business manager and editor of the Mound City Journal, which paper he started, in company with W. M. Carr, September 16, 1915. Mr. Postal was born in Mound City, February 24, 1883, and was educated in the schools of the town of his nativity. He graduated from the high school in the class of 1902. In June, 1903, he began work in the Mound City Jeffersonian office, for P. S. Mooers, then its editor, where he obtained his first newspaper experience. Later he worked in the mechanical department of the Mound City News. In 1907 he went to Winona, Kan., where he ran the Logan County News. He then returned to Mound City and worked on the papers there until 1911 when he took charge of the Corder Journal at Corder, Mo. He published this paper two and one-half years, and then located at Knob Noster, Mo., where he ran The Gem for about nine months. Mr. Postal's next move was to return to Mound City where he started a job printing office which he operated until September 16, 1915, when, with Mr. Carr, he started The Journal.

The subject of this sketch is the son of George and Nancy (Lewin) Postal, natives of Ohio and Iowa, respectively. They have two children, Dolly, wife of R. W. Harrow of Chicago, and

Woody Postal. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge and the Christian church.

JONAS B. DEARMONT.

Jonas B. Dearmont, of Mound City, is one of the leading attorneys of the town. He is also a real estate dealer, notary public and agent for the Pennsylvania and Aetna Insurance companies. He was born in Clark County, Virginia, February 25, 1861. In 1871 he moved with his parents to Holt County and settled on 240 acres in sections 11 and 14 in Liberty Township, which is still in the possession of the Dearmont family. He was educated in the country schools and the high school in Mound City.

Mr. Dearmont farmed several years on his own account and for fifteen years taught school in New Liberty, Pleasant Hill, Lonesome and Dell Center districts. During this time he read law and was admitted to the bar in 1897. Since 1902 he has been located in Mound City in the practice of his profession. He is the son of Peter and Mary E. (Bell) Dearmont, both natives of Virginia. Peter Dearmont was in the Confederate army and served under Jackson and Stewart throughout the civil strife, being engaged in many of the principal battles of the war.

J. B. Dearmont was married to Miss Mollie C. Judy, who was born in Holt County and the daughter of John H. and Hannah (Wampler) Judy. Two children have been born to them: Earl, a clerk in the Mound City postoffice and Nellie Dearmont. Mr. Dearmont has served as city clerk for about twelve years and during the past seven years has been city attorney in Mound City. Fraternally he is a member of the Yeomen and religiously he is a Presbyterian. He is an ardent and enthusiastic supporter of the principles of the Democratic party.

JOHN THOMAS BALLARD.

John Thomas Ballard has been a resident of Mound City, Holt County, Missouri, since March, 1882. He was in the mercantile business for some years, and later was a bridge contractor and builder, and then engaged in farming. He was born in Andrew County, Missouri, near Savannah, December 30, 1850. He attended the public schools of the community in which he was reared and engaged in farimng until 1881. He then engaged in the grain business and the following year moved to Mound City where he has since resided. He was an active business man for many years but not very successful. He owns a small farm near Mound City, from which he manages to make a living by being very economical. He was engaged in the grain

and stock business in Kansas on two different occasions, but always made his home in Mound City since 1882.

He still lives in the same house that he moved into thirty-three years ago. He is an ardent Democrat, so ardent in fact that when mail comes to Mound City addressed to the hottest Democrat in town it is invariably placed in Mr. Ballard's mail box.

He is the son of Elijah W. Ballard, who was born in Virginia in 1810. His father died near Savannah, Mo., in April, 1863. His mother, Sarah Earls, was born in Boone County, Kentucky, and died near Savannah, Mo., on January 4, 1851. J. T. Ballard was married near Savannah, September 18, 1870, to Miss Margaret A. Duncan, who was born in Andrew County, Missouri, October 27, 1851, and a daughter of Samuel and Jane Duncan, natives of Illinois and Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Ballard have four children: Jennie F., born October 7, 1871, wife of D. C. Blevins of Saint Anthony, Idaho; Elijah H., born May 2, 1874, died April 22, 1911; John Thomas, Jr., born April 14, 1880, died October 24, 1904, and Charles R., born June 18, 1883, died March 11, 1899. Mr. Ballard is a member of the Woodmen of the World and has served a term or two as a member of the town board.

LAFE DAWSON.

Lafe Dawson, postmaster at Maitland, has been a resident of Clay Township, Holt County, for forty years. He is the son of Jacob Dawson, a native of Hocking County, Ohio, who moved to Stark County, Illinois, when a boy and came to Holt County in 1876. He bought a farm, the northeast quarter of section 19, Clay Township, where he resided for thirty-three years. He died July 13, 1909, at the age of 77 years.

Jacob Dawson married Isabelle Eby, who was born and raised in Hocking County, Ohio. She died in 1901 at the age of 71 years.

Lafe Dawson was born near Princeville, Peoria County, Illinois, June 1, 1859. He came to Holt County with his parents an dlived on a farm until 1886, when he moved to Maitland. He worked as a clerk for Nute & French, hardware merchants, for about five years. Then he associated himself with the Broad Gauge store. He remained there nearly five years, after which he worked for Charles Graves several years. In 1905 he entered the Farmers' Bank, where he held the position of assistant bookkeeper until December 1, 1913. He was appointed postmaster at Maitland by President Wilson and took charge of the office April 14, 1914.

Mr. Dawson was married March 4, 1886, to Miss Mollie E. Kelly, a native of Baltiomre, Md. They have no children. He is a member of the Masonic Blue lodge, the United Workmen and Fraternal Aid lodges. While he has always been a Democrat he has never been really active in politics. His activities in this direction previous to his appointment as postmaster being confined to membership in the town council.

DR. J. G. WALKER.

Dr. J. G. Walker has been practicing medicine in Forbes for twenty years. He was born in Bolton, Langshire, England, September 12, 1857. When four years old his parents moved to Pawtuckett, R. I., where he grew to manhood. After his preliminary education he attended Dartmouth college, New Hampshire, taking a four-year collegiate course. Then he went to London and took a polyclinic course of three years. During the following two years he practiced in Pawtuckett. In 1885 he came to Forbes and has since practiced medicine there, with the exception of four years he spent at Russell, where he was minister of the Congregational church. He then gave up the ministry for the reason, as he expressed it that "It is more satisfactory to cure the body than to endeavor to cure the soul."

The doctor is the son of William and Sarah Ellen (Greenhalgh) Walker, both natives of England. He was married October 7, 1882, to Miss Mary E. Hedrick, who was born in Doniphan County, Kansas, a daughter of William Hedrick. They have one son and an adopted son: Ernest of Portland, Ore., and the adopted son, Charles Walker, who is farming near Forbes.

He is a member of the Masonic order and is justice of the peace for Forbes Township. He has the title of Ph. G., received from Corpus Christus College, of Oxford, England. His father was a graduate of chemistry from the Harwick school of England and for forty years had charge of the Sayles bleachery at Pawtucket, R. I. Dr. Walker is a strong Republican.

JAMES A. WILLIAMS.

James A. Williams, cashier of the Bank of Forbes, has been a resident of Holt County since 1880. He was born in Burton, Ohio, June 22, 1873. In 1880, when he was seven years old, the family came to Holt County and settled on a farm in Clay Township, near Maitland. Young Williams grew up on his father's farm and was educated in the schools in the community in which he lived. In 1898 he enlisted in B Company, Fourth Missouri Volunteer Infantry; and served about a year, being stationed most of the time at Camp Alger, Va. At the close of

the Spanish-American war he returned to the farm and managed the place for his mother, his father having died.

In 1902 Mr. Williams was elected sheriff of Holt County and served four years. Just before the end of his term he, with W. H. Richards, organized the Bank of Forbes and moved to that place. He superintended the construction of the bank building and has since been the cashier. He is the son of Dresden A. Williams, a native of Burton, Ohio.

James A. Williams was married October 15, 1901, to Miss Myrtle Kennedy, a daughter of David Kennedy, one of the men who made the town of Maitland. They have one son, Kenneth Williams, born in Oregon, Mo., June 1, 1905.

Mr. Williams is a member of the Masonic blue lodge at Oregon and Moila Temple, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, at St. Joseph. He is president of the Board of Education in Forbes and a notary public. He is a Republican in politics and has been honored by his party on several occasions. He built a splendid residence in Forbes in 1914.

GEORGE HOLTOM.

George Holtom of Mound City, one of the early settlers of Holt County, is among the well known citizens, and loved by a host of friends for his honorable life. He has been a resident of Holt County since 1871. He was born in Akely, Buckenhamshire, England, March 14, 1834. He worked as a farm hand until he came to the United States at the age of 22 years. He landed in New York May 1, 1856. He worked on a farm in New York state a short time and then went to Greenlake County, Wisconsin, where he was employed on a farm fifteen months, after which he went to Linn County, Kansas, where he filed on a claim. He sold it during the great drouth of 1860 before proving up on it. There he married in 1859 Miss Susana Weaver, who died three months later. He then left Kansas and after wintering in Northwest Missouri, went to Hancock County, Illinois, where he worked a rented farm for a year and a half. Later he bought a tract of land in that county and remained there until September, 1871, when he moved to Holt County, and settled on a farm in Liberty Township. It was a quarter section and he soon developed it into one of the best farms in the countryside. He raised hogs and cattle on a large scale and prospered. He bought two other quarter sections. He also bought large tracts of land in Pawnee, Gove, Ness and Trego counties, Kansas. Most of his real estate has been given to his children.

While yet on the farm, in 1890, he ran on the Democratic ticket for presiding judge of the county court. His popularity is evidenced by the fact that he was elected by a large majority

in a Republican county. He is a staunch Democrat and has been active in his party.

In 1902 Judge Holtom moved to Mound City, where he has since resided. He is president of the Holt County Independent Telephone Company. He is also a stockholder in the Bank of Mound City and for a number of years was one of the directors. He was one of ten charter stockholders in the Mound City Light Company and was a director and officer in that company for a number of years.

Judge Holtom was married the second time in Hancock County, Illinois, in July, 1863, to Miss Anna Twidle, a native of England, who came to the United States in 1853. Eight children have been born to them, four dying in infancy: Mary Ann, died in Holt County at the age of nine years; Mary F., wife of John B. McJunkin, living on the old Holtom farm in Liberty Township; George A., of Republic County, Kansas, and William, who died in Ness County, Kansas, January 31, 1905.

Judge Holtom is a member of the Episcopal Church and helped to build several churches in Liberty Township, his home before moving to Mound City.

JAMES T. DEARMONT.

James T. Dearmont, postmaster of Mound City, has been a resident of Holt County since 1871, and of Mound City for the past thirty years. He has been identified with the business and public affairs of the town he loves for many years and is one of its prominent citizens.

He was born in Cook County, Virginia, November 19, 1844. He was a farmer in Virginia and in 1871 came to Holt County and located on a farm in Liberty Township, where he resided until he moved to Mound City in 1886. He first engaged in the grain and fuel business, which he followed until 1913. He was then elected mayor of Mound City and gave that office his attention until his appointment as postmaster, January 22, 1915, by President Wilson.

Mr. Dearmont is the son of Michael and Lucy Dearmont, natives of Virginia, where they died a few years ago. The subject of this sketch is the youngest of the family and the only member now living. He was married in October, 1907, to Miss Mollie Reeves Ingersoll, a native of Illinois.

Mr. Dearmont has been a member of the city council of Mound City fourteen years and has given much of his time and effort to assist in the progress and advancement of the town. He is one of those public spirited citizens of which no communitly has a surplus. Fraternally he holds membership in the Odd Fellows and Woodmen of the World lodges.

HENRY C. BADE.

Henry C. Bade, proprietor of the Corning Creamery, came to Holt County in 1877, and has since been a resident of the county. He was born in Hanover, Germany, December 30, 1860, and came to the United States in 1866. He located in Atchison County, Missouri, where his parents first settled. He worked on farms around Corning until 1890, when he began farming for himself on his farm west of Corning, which he sold seven years ago and located in Corning. He engaged at once in the creamery business and has been very successful in this undertaking. He owns his home in Corning which he bought about twelve years ago.

The subject of these paragraphs is the son of John and Catherine (Lauhrs) Bade, who came to the United States in 1866. They landed in New York and at once took the train for St. Joseph. From there they traveled by boat to Hemme's Landing in Holt County. They then journeyed to Atchison County where they bought land and lived until their deaths a few years ago.

Henry C. Bade takes a commendable interest in the public affairs of the town in which he makes his home. He has served two terms on the town council and has held other positions of public trust. He also owns and manages a cream station at Craig, which he gives his personal attention.

Mr. Bade was married November 5, 1893, to Miss Emily Smith, who was born in Nebraska and is the daughter of John W. and Patience Smith. They have one daughter, Vinta Leona, wife of Irwin Bruce, a farmer two miles east of Corning. Mr. Bade is a member of the German Lutheran Church.

IRVIN S. DANKERS.

Irwin S. Dankers, pioneer merchant and one of the early settlers of Corning, was born near Hemme's Landing, Lincoln, Township, January 20, 1867. He lived with his father on a farm until he was 18 years old, when he and his brother, Andrew O. Dankers and Paul Schultz formed a partnership under the name of Schultz & Dankers Brothers, and began dealing in general merchandise and drugs, Schultz being a druggist. In 1888 Mr. Schultz sold his interest and the business was continued by Dankers Brothers until 1905 when Irwin sold his interest to his brother. In 1911 he bought out Andrew and has since conducted the business alone. He carries a large stock and enjoyed a good patronage. The store has always been on the same corner. His father built the present two-story business house in 1900.

The subject of this sketch is the son of Henry A. Dankers,

who was born in Hanover, Germany, and came to the United States in 1841. He located near Hemme's Landing and later moved to the farm where he now lives. He preempted the land from the government and it has ever since been in his name. He is now 81 years old. His wife was Elizabeth Kunkel, also a native of Germany. She died in 1887.

Irvin S. Dankers was married June 5, 1895, to Miss Bertha Christian, born in Holt County, and the daughter of Peter Christian. They have five children: Floyd A., Harry I., Evan, Katherine and Ina. He is a member of the German Lutheran Church. He has served as mayor of Corning one term and several years as member of the town and school boards. Politically Mr. Dankers is a Republican.

WILLIAM DEBORD.

William DeBord, one of the old timers in Maitland, has been a resident of Holt County since 1871. He is the owner of the Maitland coal yard and half owner of the grain elevator, which he manages. In the early days he was a farmer, but for the past twenty years has been following mercantile pursuits in Mound City and Maitland.

Mr. DeBord was born in Peoria County, Illinois, April 27, 1845, where he grew to manhood. He enlisted in E Company, 139th Illinois Infantry, at Princeton, Ill. At the close of the war he returned to his native county and engaged in farming until the fall of 1869, when he came to Missouri, locating first in Andrew County. He lived there eighteen months, when he came to Holt County and bought eighty acres in section 31, in Clay Township. This he sold later and bought a quarter section, in the eastern part of the same section. It was raw prairie and by dint of hard work Mr. DeBord converted it into a highly improved farm on which he lived for a number of years. He now owns a farm of 200 acres near Maitland.

He engaged in stock shipping in Mound City for three years. Then he returned to his farm for a period of five years and then moved to Maitland, where he has since resided. He first engaged in the lumber business for eleven or twelve years, and has since been in the coal and grain business. In the summer of 1915, in partnership with J. F. Cook of Maryville he built the Maitland elevator of which he is now the manager.

The subject of this sketch is the son of Reuben R. and Julia (Hall) DeBord. He was married at Princeton, Ill., February 13, 1868, to Miss Cordelia A. Bates, a native of Peoria County, Illinois, and a daughter of Oren and Elizabeth Bates. They have eight children: Blanche, now Mrs. Fred Collison, of Maitland;

Watie, now Mrs. B. C. Hitchcock, of Holton, Kans.; Anna, who died at the age of 19 years; LeRoy, of Nodaway County; Ralph, who lives on the home place in Clay Township; Maud, who died at the age of 19 years; Clara, now Mrs. Carl Elliott of Nodaway County and Mark, also of Nodaway County.

Mr. DeBord served two years as mayor of Maitland. He is a member of the Grand Army Post and the Christian Church. Politically he is a Democrat.

DR. THOMAS O. DAVIS.

Dr. Thomas O. Davis, one of the leading physicians of Maitland, came to Holt County with his parents in 1866 and settled near New Point in Hickory Township. His father, John W. Davis was one of the progressive and successful farmers of his day. Dr. Davis attended the high school in Oregon, in 1881-82, after which he followed the pursuit of teaching until 1887. Then he took up the study of medicine with Dr. J. R. Kearney in New Point. He attended the Kansas City Medical College, graduatting March 11, 1889. He was head nurse in the Kansas City hospital in 1888 and 1889, and also was druggist in the same institution. This was through the kindness of Dr. H. S. Douglas, house surgeon, who wished to help the young men get an education, as he was without means. Dr. Davis walked from his lodging to the hospital, a distance of two miles to save car fare.

In May, 1889, the subject of this sketch located in Bigelow, where he practiced his profession until 1903, when he located in Maitland, buying the office and residence of Dr. H. E. Hall.

Dr. Davis was born in Salem, Washington County, Indiana, August 29, 1860. He is the son of John W. and Deborah G. (Denny) Davis. He was married at the Fairview Church, October 30, 1889, to Marilla J. Trueblood, who was born in Washington County, Indiana, and was the daughter of Jesse and Chlorinda L. Trueblood. They have three children: Roy B., born at Bigelow August 25, 1890; Elsie Vivian, born March 21, 1892 at Bigelow and Edith May, born December 29, 1894, at Bigelow. The doctor has been a member of the Woodmen of the World since 1894; the Fraternal Aid Union since 1900; Blue Lodge of Masons since 1902 and the Brotherhood of American Yeomen since 1902. He was one of the charter members of the Holt County Medical Association and assisted materially in the organization of this society. He is a member of the Missouri State Medical Association and the American Medical Association.

TOM CURRY.

One of the oldest newspapers in Northwest Missouri is the Holt County Sentinel, which was established in 1865 and which

has been publishing the news, carrying local advertising, and doing an excellent service in boosting for the welfare of that county for nearly half a century.

The proprietors are the firm of Dobyns & Curry, and the junior member, Tom Curry, is one of the veterans of Missouri journalism.

A descendant of Revolutionary stock, Tom Curry was born in Plymouth County, Iowa, October 27, 1856, and has the distinction of being the first white child born in that county. His parents were James Barnes and Mary (Philbrick) Curry. James B. Curry was a grandson of Dr. Thomas Curry of Crawfordsville, Ind., who in turn was a son of Hiram Mirick Curry, who was with General Washington at Valley Forge and a number of years later served also as a soldier in the War of 1812. Tom Curry, through his mother is of Danish lineage, being descended from Providenze Montz, who emigrated to this country and settled in Beesontown, Virginia, during the Indian wars.

Tom Curry was brought to Holt County, Missouri, in July, 1857, and, with the exception of a brief absence for experience on a metropolitan newspaper, that county has been his home ever since. When seventeen years old he began learning the printers trade as an apprentice on the Missouri Valley Times, when Hasness & Kaucher were its editors and publishers. He was also employed on the old Holt County Press. In 1883 Mr. Curry became a partner of D. P. Dobyns on the Holt County Sentinel, the firm name being changed to Dobyns & Curry the same year, and that title has now existed for more than thirty years. For ten years, from 1897 to 1907, Mr. Curry served as postmaster of Oregon.

On February 18, 1885, Mr. Curry and Wilhelmina Fiegenbaum were united in marriage, and they have become the parents of two children: Will R. and Anna Helen, the latter now the wife of Johnson J. Rayhill of Oregon, Missouri. Mrs. Curry is a daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Henry Fiegenbaum of St. Joseph, Mo., her father having been a pioneer minister of the German M. E. Church.

DAVID POLLOCK DOBYNS.

The press of Northwest Missouri has its oldest and one of its most honored figures in David Pollock Dobyns, editor of the Oregon Sentinel. His long and varied career began with service as a soldier in the army during the Civil war; as a practical printer and for nearly forty years he has been identified with the management and editor, of the Sentinel at Oregon.

David Pollock Dobyns was born in St. Louis, Missouri, January 25, 1845, and comes of good old American stock. His first

American ancestor was Edward Dobyns, who was born in England in 1747, emigrated and settled in Culpeper County, Virginia, and during the Revolution was a soldier in the American army under Lieutenant Apollos Cooper, and was present at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown in 1781. After independence was won by the colonies he located in Mason County, Kentucky, as one of the pioneers, and died there in 1794.

Through James Dobyns, who was born in 1772 and a son of Edward Dobyns, the record goes through his son, James Reed Dobyns, father of the Oregon editor. James Reed Dobyns was born in Mason County, Kentucky, March 11, 1815, and died in 1887. He was a carpenter and contractor, had the common school education of his time; also served in the railway mail service, and was a Methodist and a member of the Republican party. He married Sarah Glascock Craft, whose parents came from Kentucky and located in Calloway County, Missouri. She died in 1849 in St. Louis during the cholera epidemic.

Of their four children David P. is the only one living, the names of the other three being Emma, Alonzo and Byron.

David Pollock Dobyns spent his early boyhood and youth in St. Louis and his education came from the common schools. He was about fifteen years of age when the war broke out, and he took part as a Union soldier in the First and Fortieth Missouri Infantry regiments. He was a participant in the capture of Camp Jackson, and later the Missouri battles of Boonville and Wilson Creek, and subsequently in a number of the sanguinary struggles in the Mississippi valley, including Nashville, Tenn.

As a practical printer and newspaper man Mr. Dobyns has had forty-nine years of continuous service. He began work in March, 1868, on the Argus, at Macon, Mo., and in the spring of 1876 went to the St. Joseph Herald. In the fall of 1876 he became identified with the Holt County Sentinel at Oregon, and has been with that journal for forty-one years, and is now its senior editor. The Sentinel is now in its fifty-third year of continuous publication and one of the oldest and most influential papers published in Northwest Missouri. Mr. Dobyns is regarded as the nestor of the Northwest Missouri Press Association. His best service has been done as editor, and he is one of the efficient kind of newspaper men, modest and retiring in personal disposition, with no desire to mix in public affairs, and makes but sparing use of the personal pronoun. In general affairs he is conservative, but has always exerted his individual influence and power as an editor for helping enterprises tending to advance the interests of his town and county. Politically he has been identified with the Republican party and has served as a member of the state committee. For forty years he has been a member of the Christian Church, and for forty-four years has been affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in

which he has served as past grand and as past grand representative.

Mr. Dobyns was married at Macon, Mo., in April, 1870, to Emma, a daughter of Dr. William A. and Mary (Mason) Greer, her father from Virginia and her mother of Shelby County, Missouri. Mr. Dobyns has three children and eight grandchildren. Lula Dobyns, born at Macon, Mo., December 11, 1871, married Charles G. Markel and lives in Denver, Colo.; they have one daughter. Edwin B. Bobyns, born at Macon, July 4, 1874, is a railroad dispatcher for the Santa Fe Railway Company, now residing at Marceline, Mo., and by his marriage to Viola Mercer in 1897 has four children, three daughters and one son, two of the daughters being twins. Leigh B. Dobyns, born at Oregon, Mo., November 30, 1878, is a Western Union operator on the Tribune at Lewiston, Idaho; in 1902 he married Anna Clark of Beloit, Kan., and has two daughters and one son. All the children were liberally educated.

GEORGE W. HINKLE.

George W. Hinkle is one of the influential farmers of Bigelow Township and has resided in Holt County all his life. He was born on his father's homestead, which was settled in 1885. and is located one and one-half miles south of the John C. Hinkle farm, January 30, 1866. When a boy he attended the old White school on his father's farm. Later he went to the Idlewilde school. He finished his education in the Central College at Fayette and the Kansas Agricultural College at Manhattan.

During the two years following the completion of his education he was engaged in the mines at Silverton and Red Mountain, Colo., his father having property near the former place. Then he returned to Holt County and went to work on his father's farm. Later he engaged in farming for himself on land his father had given him. He remained on the old homestead until the spring of 1915, when he moved to the farm he now occupies, which he had bought four years before of Henry Alkire, and formerly the property of John Q. Shepherd.

He is the son of John C. Hinkle, one of the best known and highly esteemed farmers in the county, who came here in 1855, from Franklin County, Missouri. He is now living on a farm in the same neighborhood in which he first settled.

George W. Hinkle is an industrious, ambitious and progressive farmer, who is fast improving his land. Last year he built one of the largest hay barns in the county. He owns 180 acres in his home farm and all told has 850 acres of land. He has for years operated a threshing machine.

Mr. Hinkle was married March 30, 1904, to Miss Ada

Brown, who was born in Franklin County, Missouri, and is the daughter of Joseph and Eliza (Steele) Brown. They have no children.

GLEN H. THIEMAN.

Glen H. Thieman, proprietor of the Crystal Cafe at Corning, is a native of Atchison County, being born just across the line February 7, 1893. He is the son of Henry L. Thieman, a native of Holt County, whose parents came here from Germany in the early '40's. Henry L. Thieman is living in Corning and is engaged in the grain business and farming. He also operates a saw mill and threshing machine. His wife was Miss Jenne Williams, a daughter of James Williams. They have two children: Glen H., the subject of this sketch and Garnett, a student at the Weslyan University.

Glen H. Thieman came with his family to Holt County in 1900, and has lived here practically ever since. He was educated in the schools of Corning and later attended the Nebraska City high school and the business college in that town. Later he attended the Central Business College at Sedalia, Mo. In 1910 he began playing professional baseball and was a pitcher. He was with the Columbus, Nebr., team in the Nebraska State League and the Cedar Rapids, Iowa, team in the Central Association.

On December 11, 1914, he bought the Crystal Cafe, and has been the proprietor since that date. He conducts an excellent place and has everything in the best of condition. He handles soft drinks, confectionery, cigars and tobacco. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World order and is banker of the Corning lodge. Mr. Thieman is single and lives with his father in Corning.

PETER A. CHRISTIAN.

Peter A. Christian is proprietor of the lumber yard and a dealer in furniture in Corning. He was born there December 9, 1879, and has always lived in Holt County. He is the son of Peter Christian, one of the old timers of the county, a man well and favorably known; a man who was prominent in the affairs of Corning during its early growth.

The senior Christian was born in Switzerland, October 25, 1841. He received a good education and learned the trade of cabinet maker in his native country and made that occupation his life work. He came to this country in 1865, coming direct to St. Joseph, where he was employed by the Louis Hax Furniture Company for three years. Then he went to Omaha for a year and in 1869 located in Corning. He soon engaged in the furni-

ture and lumber business and also ran an undertaking department, making the caskets himself. He was a fine workman and there is yet in Corning many evidences of his skill with tools. He came to this country without means, but prospered and at the time of his death, April 19, 1915, owned considerable property, including several farms.

Peter A. Christian, after a preliminary education obtained in Corning, attended the Chillicothes Norman School. He then worked for his father in the furniture anl lumber business, managing the business for several years prior to the death of his father. He is now the owner of the business.

Mr. Christian was married in Corning to Miss Anna M. Massock, who was born in Atchison County, December 14, 1879, and is the daughter of Joseph Massock. They have two children: Harold Dean and Wesley Wayne. Mr. Christian is a member of the Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen and Woodmen of the World lodges. Politically he is a Democrat.

AARON JOHNSON.

Aaron Johnson, proprietor of a blacksmith shop in Corning has been a resident of that town since 1898. He owns an excellent residence in Corning. He was born in Worburg, Sweden, in February 15, 1857. He learned the trade with his father, who operated a blacksmith shop in his native country. He also owned a small farm there.

Mr. Johnson came to America in 1880 and landed at Castle Garden, N. Y., July 5. He first located in Sheffield, Pa., where he worked a short time and then went to Hoopston, Ill., where he worked for his brothers eight months. He next went to Rankin, Ill., where he started a shop of his own, running it four years. He next farmed for a year, but soon drifted back to mechanical pursuits. After being located in various places he came to Corning in 1898. He rented a shop from W. F. Walters which he ran for five years, when he built his present shop. He has been one of the live, enterprising citizens of Corning and has done his part in making the town one of the best in the county.

Mr. Johnson was married in 1886 in Chicago to Hanna Christina Johnson who was born in Sweden. They have two children living: Blanch Elizabeth and Emma Louisa, who is a nurse in Shenandoah, Ia. One son, Arthur, died in 1914 at the age of 27 years. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church.

ALONZO E. BRINSON.

Alonzo E. Brinson is the proprietor of the Atlantic Hotel at Forest City, and is the right man in the right place, and will make that hostelry one of the popular inns of Holt County.

Mr. Brinson is yet a young man and has had a varied and interesting career, having visited many of the principal seaports and towns of the world while a soldier in the ranks of the regular army. He was born in Lyons, Indiana, and when a child nine months of age his parents moved to Holt County and took up their residence on a farm in Forest Township, where young Alonzo lived until eight years of age. Then the family removed to Forbes Township and three years later returned to Forest Township. He then went to Nebraska and took up his residence in Dunbar, where he lived until 17 years old. At that time he wished to become a soldier, and likewise enlisted in Company F, First Infantry, serving three years. During this period he was stationed at Columbus, Ohio, Fort Wayne, Indiana, and Canton, Ohio. At the latter place he was one of a detatchment of fifty from his company who did guard over the receiving vault which contained the remains of the late President McKinley, prior to placing them in the family vault. On the 25th of January, 1906, the company was taken to New York, where it embarked on the transports Kirkpatrick and McClelland and proceeded to Manila, P. I., via the Suez Canal, landing at Manila in April, next. There the company was stationed at Camps McKinley and Stotsenburg, Luzon Island, for six months, and was then transferred to Fort Connell, on the Island of Symra, making that camp headquarters until July, 1908. In that month the company was sent back to the United States and was stationed at the barracks at Portland, Oregon, until discharged in the latter part of 1908. Mr. Brinson remained on the west coast until 1911, when he returned to Forest City, where he has since resided and is now the proprietor of the Atlantic Hotel.

Alonzo E. Brinson is the son of Silas M. Brinson and Minnie Brinson, natives of Indiana, to whom five children were born—Alonzo E., Emery G., Roy, Amy and Frank, all residing at Dunbar, Neb., except the subject of this sketch and his mother, who died September 6, 1906.

Alonzo E. Brinson was married May 1, 1915, to Miss Bertha Margaret Jamison, who was born in Lewis Township, Holt County, and is the daughter of A. J. Jamison, a highly respected citizen and an early settler of the county.

CARL OWENS.

Carl Owens, who owns and lives on a farm of ninety acres in Benton Township was born on the farm on which his father located many years ago and on which he (Carl) still lives. The date of his birth was July 2, 1891.

He is the son of Owen and Mary E. (Baldwin) Owens. The

senior Owens was a Welshman, being born in Wales. Mrs. Owens was born in this county and was the daughter of Daniel Baldwin, who came to Holt County in 1844. Both are now dead.

Carl Owens was married November 16, 1915, to Miss Ione Guthrie, who was born in Benton Township and is the daughter of Albert and Lottie (Cooper) Guthrie. Mr. Owens is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge at Mound City. He is one of the enterprising, progressive farmers in his section, the type of man that develops the latent resources of the community in which he lives and makes the world a better place in which to live.

SENATOR GEORGE W. GLICK.

Senator George W. Glick, farmer and representative from this district in the Missouri State Senate is one of Holt County's best and most popular men. He served the county as representative in the lower house of the state legislature in 1907-8 and in the senate 1914-1918. He was first elected to the senate to fill the unexpired term of Francis Wilson, who had been appointed United States District Attorney, at a special election called at the general election in 1914, this being in the middle of the senatorial term. He was nominated to succeed himself at the primary election in August, 1916. His popularity with the people was fully demonstrated in the race he made for representative in 1906. Running on the Democratic ticket, against Ivan Blair, Republican in a county that is strongly Republican, he was elected by an overwhelming majority.

In his home district he has served as school director and for the past nine years has been president of the Holt County Mutual Fire & Lighting Insurance Company.

Senator Glick was born on the farm now owned by William Kinney, in sections 30 and 31 in South Benton Township. This farm was bought by Senator Glick's grandfather, Joseph Glick, in 1852, which later passed to the possession of young Glick's father, Samuel Glick. He died there several years ago and the farm then became the property of Senator Glick, who was born there March 14, 1875. He remained on the old homestead until 1903, when he moved to the farm in the northeast quarter of section 20, in Benton Township. He bought the place of the Blair heirs, then consisting of 240 acres. This place was settled by James Blair's father in the early '40's. When Glick became the owner the old "hand made" house, built in the '50's, was still standing. Mr. Glick built one of the most modern houses in the county, and otherwise improved the property. He sold

it after living there six years and bought 255 acres in section 18, same township, of William Weightman, Jr., and where he now lives. The senator has been a large and successful feeder of cattle and hogs and a big corn raiser.

He is the son of Samuel Glick, who was born in Rockingham County, Virginia, March 19, 1875. He came to Holt County in the early '50's and died in the fall of 1896.

Senator Glick was married August 30, 1891, to Grace B. Henning, daughter of M. F. Henning of Madison County, Virginia, who came to Holt County in 1883. Mr. Henning was in the Confederate army and served throughout the war. Mr. and Mrs. Glick have five children: Edna May, wife of Grover Andes; Samuel, Edgar L., Russell C. and Mildred M. Mr. Glick has memberships in the Masons, Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen, Woodmen of the World, Eastern Star and Royal Neighbor lodges. The family are members of the church and the senator has been superintendent of the Blair Sunday School for the past eight years.

JOHN L. ANNO.

John L. Anno, farmer, who resides on his well improved homeplace of forty acres in section 28, Forest Township, is one of the highly esteemed citizens of that part of the county. He also owns 107 acres in another tract in the same section. He came to Holt County in 1868, when only one year of age and has since resided in the same section in which his father bought land in 1868.

Mr. Anno was born in Andrew County, Missouri, January 16, 1867, and is the son of James and Susan (Wilhoit) Anno. The senior Anno came to Holt County in the early '50's when Forest City was a steamboat landing. He later moved to Andrew County, where he married, and in 1868 returned to Holt County and began farming. At first they rented land from George Hartman, later buying a portion of the tract, which was converted into the productive farm on which John L. Anno now lives.

John L. Anno worked with his parents at the arduous labor of clearing the farm land of timber and otherwise improving the place. When 22 years old he had saved money and with his father bought an additional 80 acres, and this he farmed also. He has never left the home place. When the estate was settled after his father's death he bought the interest of the other heirs. Later, as above mentioned, he bought 107 acres in the southern part of section 28. He farms all of his land and is meeting with deserved success.

Mr. Anno was married at the bride's home in Minton Township, March 2, 1893, to Leona Carrie Lunsford, who was born in Forest Township and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lunsford. They are the parents of five children: Gerald W., James R., Leona R., Wilma B. and John W. Byron who died when 8 months old.

JOHN NOLAND.

John Noland is a native of Holt County and was born on his father's homestead in the Kimsey school district in Forest Township November 18, 1866. He now lives on his 160-acre farm in Minton Township, in the Idlewilde school district, where he has lived the past ten years. He lived on his father's place in Forest Township until he was 21 years old, then they moved to Minton Township and bought the farm on which Oliver J. Noland now lives. There the subject of this sketch lived two years when he was married and began farming for himself, on the old home place where he remained six years. Then he rented land from J. P. Davis and farmed two years, when he formed a partnership with Mr. Davis and engaged in the stock business. He moved to the Davis homestead and lived there three years. In March, 1906, he bought his present farm from Elijah Hopper, which consisted of sixty acres. He has since bought 100 acres from George Cotton.

He is the son of Joshua and Delilah (Briggs) Noland, natives of New Hampshire and Howard County, Missouri, respectively. They moved to Holt County in 1852. Mr. Noland died on his farm in Walnut Grove district in August, 1889. Mrs. Noland, the mother of the subject of this sketch is still living with her children at the age of 81 years.

John Noland was married July 1, 1888, to Miss Cora Sinclair, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Sinclair, who was born in Minton Township. They have four children living: Oral, of Minton Township; Ephal, wife of C. W. Hoover, living at Forest City; Leverett, of Minton Township; Everett, twin of Leverett, is dead; and Ray, who lives at home.

HENRY R. STUART.

Henry R. Stuart, justice of the peace at Fortescue, has been a resident of Minton Township for many years. He was a justice before Minton Township was formed from a part of the territory of Bigelow Township. He was engaged in farming for a number of years before moving to Fortescue six years ago.

He was born in St. Louis County, Missouri, December 4,

1844, on his father's farm where he received a common school education. In April, 1866, at the age of 22, he took up his residence at St. Stevens, Richardson County, Nebr. The trip from St. Louis to St. Stevens was made by steamboat, as there were no railroads here in those days. He drove three teams of oxen to Denver for his uncle, who was in the freighting business.

Stuart came to Holt County in April, 1867, and lived with his uncle, John Q. Shepard. Later he lived with another uncle, A. B. Welton, one of the first settlers in Bigelow Township. In 1873 he engaged in farming on his own account. After renting land for five years he bought 80 acres in section 28, Bigelow Township. This land he improved and occupied until six years ago, when he bought property in Fortescue where he has since lived. With his son, W. B. Stuart, he now ships apples in season.

The father of Henry Stuart was Samuel Stuart, a native of Kentucky, who came to Missouri in the early days. Henry Stuart was married August 23, 1873, to Martha T. Duke, a native of Kansas. They have three children: William B. and Charles S. of Fortescue and Edith May of St. Joseph.

Mr. Stuart has been a Mason since 1868, having been raised to a Master Mason at Mound City. He and his wife are long time members of the M. E .Church, South.

SYLVESTER M. HOWARD.

Sylvester M. Howard, merchant of Fortescue, has been a resident of Holt County since 1875. He was born in Iowa, and when three weeks old the family moved to St. Joseph, his father buying 160 acres at the northeast end of Lake Contrary, most of which has since been taken by the Missouri River. On the remaining few acres are located the summer resorts for which the lake is famous. After a residence of three years there Mr. Howard's parents died within one day of one another. Sylvester, with five sisters and one brother were left orphans. Their brother-in-law, Judge A. W. Van Camp was made administrator of the estate and later disposed of the property.

With Judge Van Camp the family moved to St. Joseph and lived there until 1875, when they moved to Holt County and settled on the Jacob Book mill property in Minton Township, north of Fortescue. A few years later they moved to the farm where the Van Camps have lived many years.

Howard remained with the Van Camp family until he moved to Fortescue in 1900. Two years later Judge Van Camp also moved to Fortescue and lives with the Howard family, his

wife having died in the meantime. When he went to Fortescue Mr. Howard bought a half interest in the merchandise store of John R. Minton, and did business there for a year under the firm name of Minton & Howard, when they sold to Charles Craig. Mr. Howard then bought the Wesley Coots farm in South Benton Township. A year later he sold out and returned to Fortescue. He clerked in stores for a couple of years and then built a business house on Main street, in which he conducted a restaurant there for about five years, selling out to C. W. Craig. He was manager of the John H. Lynds Mill & Elevator Company's business for four years, then became manager of the Fortescue Mercantile Company's business for two years. After clerking in Langdon and Fortescue for several years he again engaged in business on his own account. In October, 1914, he bought the building and stock of the Fortescue Mercantile Company, and has since been engaged in the general merchandise business.

His parents were Samuel and Oma Howard and he is one of a family of seven children. Mr. Howard was born in Iowa May 19, 1865, and was married at the Christian church in Minton Township, March 1, 1896, to Miss Ida E. Brown, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Brown. They have one daughter, Etta Marie. Mr. Howard is a member of the Masonic and Woodmen of the World lodges.

CHARLES C. LAWRENCE.

Charles C. Lawrence owns and lives on the 511-acre farm in Benton Township known as the Dave Batman place, of which he came into possession in April, 1915. He was born in Nodaway County, May 2, 1870, and is the son of Hosea B. Lawrence, one of the influential and substantial farmers of Holt County, who was born in Pike County, Ohio, January 19, 1847, and who came to Holt County with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Lawrence in 1855. They first occupied one of the old May farms northwest of Mound City, where they lived two years. They then moved to Nodaway County, where H. B. lived until 1871, when he moved back to Holt County and bought the land on which he is now living, in section 30, Union Township. He now owns 1,100 acres in Holt and Atchison Counties. He married Miss Mary S. Curry, born in Gollier County, Ohio.

Mr. Lawrence is an Odd Fellow. He is one of the big feeders of hogs and cattle in Holt County and an extensive farmer. He owns property and a feed mill in Craig.

Charles C. Lawrence remained on the home place with his father until 1902, the father and sons buying land and farming it together. In 1902 he moved to Nodaway County, buying 240 acres north of Graham. He lived there until 1915 when he

bought and moved to his present farm. He was married March 8, 1905, to Miss Cora Ryan, who was born in Adams County, Ohio, and a daughter of Charles and Sarah Ryan. They have three children: Ruth, Thomas and Robert. Like his father he is an Odd Fellow, all the Lawrence boys and their father being members of the Craig lodge.

WILLIAM H. PATTERSON.

William H. Patterson, proprietor of the feed and feeding barn in Mound City, is one of the well known farmers and honored citizens of Holt County, where he has lived since 1850. For years Mr. Patterson was one of the big Clay Township farmers, and a breeder of fine stock. At one time he was the heaviest cattle tax payer in Holt County. He still owns the farm in Clay Township which he settled in January, 1871. He was one of the movers in the work of levying the Nodaway river to protect the bottom lands from overflow. Before the Villisca branch of the Burlington was built he had to haul his products to Bigelow for shipment.

Mr. Patterson went into the breeding of fine stock in 1881, when he brought the first fine jack to Holt County. He was afterwards a breeder of Poland-China and Duroc-Jersey hogs. He is a member of the National Association of Duroc-Jersey Red Hog Breeders.

He retired from active farm work March 1, 1910, and moved to Mound City where he devotes his time to the business he has there. He bought the C. S. Armstrong property, one of the nice suburban residences in Mound City, where he is spending the evening of his life after a successful career in the country.

Mr. Patterson is a staunch Democrat. He cast the first and only vote in Clay Township in the early '70's at the time Judge Henry S. Kelley was first elected, over Thomas Collins, Democrat. Mr. Patterson ran for county judge at large in the early '80's on the Democratic ticket and lacked only forty votes of being elected, his opponent being T. W. McCoy. He served ninety days in Governor Jackson's militia at the outbreak of the Civil war.

Mr. Patterson was married in Andrew County, Missouri, March 1, 1866, to Eliza J. Cobb, the daughter of G. W. Cobb. Of this union there have been born nine children: Louis N., of Andrew County; Ed. H., of Andrew County; Hallie, wife of Louis Wampler, of Andrew County; William L., of Holt County; George H., of Andrew County; Maude L., wife of Dr. C. L. Rees, of Rosendale, Mo.; Edith M., wife of Dr. J. J. Harman, of Valley Falls, Kan.; Mora O., who runs the home place six miles east of

Mound City; Dr. Ernest J. Patterson, a veterinary surgeon of Savannah.

Mr. Patterson was chairman of the Union Labor party in the '80's. He has served as school director in Clay Township and as road supervisor, opening many of the first roads in the vicinity in which he lived.

T. W. BURKE.

T. W. Burke, a well known citizen of Mound City and a former merchant who was in the furniture business for twenty-three years, has been a resident of that town for a quarter of a century. He was forced to quit business a few years ago because of poor health, which he has partially regained since his retirement.

Mr. Burke was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, March 20, 1843. When he was ten years old the family moved to New Corydon, Jay County, Indiana. He lived on a farm there for twenty years. In 1872 he moved to Clarinda, Ia., where he was manager of a general merchandise store for six years. He then engaged in farming for a number of years. In 1863 he enlisted in B Company, 126th Regiment Indiana volunteers and was commissioned commissary sergeant of the company. He served until the close of the war. In November, 1891, he came to Mound City and was in the furniture business until March, 1914, when the condition of his health forced him to sell out.

He is the son of Levi and Eliza (Williams) Burke, natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. Burke was married at New Corydon, Ind., November 17, 1867, to Mary E. Johnson, who was born near Piuray, Ohio, January 27, 1846. Mr. and Mrs. Burke have one daughter, Lulu Leota, who resides with her parents. Mr. Burke is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge which he joined at Clarinda, Ia., in 1888. He also holds membership in the Odd Fellows lodge in Mound City and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, his parents being members of that organization.

Mr. Burke is proud of his ancestry, his father being of Irish descent, and his grandfather, Patrick Burke, being born in Ireland. Patrick Burke's wife was of German descent. They were married after coming to the United States and from this union the American branch of the Burke family started.

LEWIS I. MOORE.

Lewis I. Moore was born in Oregon, Mo., March 30, 1862. His father, Lewis Moore, came from Londonderry, Ireland, in 1829 and was one of the early merchants in Oregon, and mar-

ried Desire Ellen Sterrett, who was born in Indiana in 1843. Mr. Moore died in November, 1861, and his wife in July, 1907.

Lewis I. Moore was married to Emma Spoerle, August 21, 1884. They have three children: Milton S., now with Meinrath Brokerage Company of Kansas City; Will L., in the grocery business in Oregon and Mary E. Moore, head of music studios in Chicago and Evanston, Ill.

The subject of this sketch was elected city marshall of Oregon, April 2, 1883, and held the offices of alderman, treasurer, city clerk and mayor of his home town for about twenty years. He was county treasurer four years, from 1896 to 1900. He served as chairman of the Republican County Committee four years. He was elected member of the school board in 1896 and was made its treasurer, which offices he still holds.

Mr. Moore started in the grocery business in 1886 and continued in that business until 1915. In 1899 he bought the Oregon Canning Company's factory and has continued the business until the present time. He was one of the prime movers in starting the building of a railroad to Oregon. When the road was started he was made secretary-treasurer and general manager, which offices he still holds. With his son Will he is one of the largest buyers and shippers of apples in Holt County.

In 1911 Mr. Moore purchased stock in the Zook & Roecker Banking Company of Oregon and is active vice-president of this bank. As side lines Mr. Moore writes insurance, is president of the Oregon Commercial Club, takes an active interest in all publib affairs and runs a 105-acre farm which he owns one mile west of Oregon.

WILLIAM F. VANCE.

William F. Vance, investment broker and farmer of Mound City has been a resident of that town since 1900. For two years he was foreman of the McKee-Zook ranch near Mound City and two years later bought 644 acres of that ranch land, which was the beginning of his property holdings in Holt County, which include real estate to the value of about $25,000. He did this by hard work and business ability. He is an influential citizen and has investments in Oklahoma, Montana and other states.

When the big Squaw Creek drainage ditch was built through the valley land southwest of Mound City in 1906, Mr. Vance was appointed drainage commissioner by the board of supervisors. He owns valuable property in Mound City and has served several terms as chairman of the Commercial Club.

Mr. Vance was born in Champaign County, Illinois, October 10, 1869, where he lived until he was 24 years old. He was ab-

sent from his old home about three years while ranching and railroading in the southwest. In September, 1894, he moved to Ringgold County, Iowa, where he leased 760 acres of land which he stocked and farmed until 1898. For the next two years he was livestock solicitor and loan man for the McKee-Zook-Whitford Commission Company of Kansas City and St. Joseph. He then moved to Mound City.

Mr. Vance was married November 29, 1894, to Miss Maude E. Wright of Harpster, Ill. They have one daughter, Vona May, who graduated from the Mound City high school in the class of 1914 and from Hardin college in the class of 1916.

He is the son of William S. Vance of Kaiser, West Virginia. Fraternally Mr. Vance is a member of the Masons, Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen and Woodmen of the World. As a Mason he has taken the thirty-second degree and is a member of Moila Temple, St. Joseph.

HENRY C. COOK

Henry C. Cook is proprietor of the Oregon Monument Works and senior member of the firm of Cook & Foster, proprietors of one of the leading garages in Oregon. This firm handles the Dodge, Hudson, Mitchell and Chevrolet cars and in addition does a general repair business. Mr. Cook also owns a farm of nearly 200 acres south of Oregon which he cultivates. He is also the proprietor of monument shops in St. Joseph and Mound City. He is one of the well known granite and marble men in northwest Missouri.

Mr. Cook was born in Oregon, November 20, 1856, and it has always been his boast that he never spent thirty consecutive days outside of his native county. He is the son of William Cook, a native of West Virginia, being born March 4, 1817. The senior Cook came to Missouri in 1842 and located in Henry County, where he remained a year. Then he came to Oregon and lived here until his death in 1887. He opened one of the first blacksmtih shops in the town and did work for patrons all over the county. He married Dorinda Jackson, a native of Kentucky, whose parents were also Holt County pioneers.

Henry C. Cook was married in 1883 to Miss Mary E. Pierce, a native of Holt County and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Silas Pierce. They have one son, Fred P. Cook, born June 9, 1888.

Mr. Cook has always been active in the affairs of the Democratic party in Holt County and is the second Democrat to be elected sheriff in this Republican stronghold. He was elected to that office in 1892 and served one term of two years. He has

served as a member of the city council of Oregon and was one of the active pushers who built the railroad connecting Oregon with the Burlington main line at Forest City. Fraternally Mr. Cook has membership in the Woodmen of the World lodge.

HUGH G. HARSHA.

Hugh G. Harsha, postmaster at Oregon, is a native Holt County citizen, being born September 12, 1878, in Forbes township. He has resided in the county continuously since the date of his birth. He has been a hard working man all his life. His father died when he was but three years old and as soon as he had attained sufficient size he assisted in the support of his mother. He began working for himself when 14 years old and farmed until 1903, when he was made a rural mail carrier. For twelve years he carried the mail out of Oregon on several rural routes.

Mr. Harsha has always been a party worker in the Democratic ranks, but never received any of the emoluments of the game of politics until he was appointed postmaster at Oregon November 9, 1915. He took charge of the office November 15, 1915, and is making a careful, painstaking and obliging public servant.

Mr. Harsha was married September 14, 1904, to Miss Pearl Keown, a native of Harrison County, Missouri. Mrs. Harsha died July 30, 1914, at the age of 29 years. One child has been born of this union, Frances, who was born July 22, 1914.

He is the son of George W. and Mary E. (Smith) Harsha. His father was born in New York state in 1838 and his mother near Bedford, Ind., in 1839. The senior Harsha died in 1881 and his wife makes her home with her son Hugh, in Oregon. She has two other children by a former marriage, James and Frank Colhour. Mr. Harsha is a Mason and a member of the Christian church.

JOHN H. KEEVES.

John H. Keeves, a prosperous business man of Oregon, is a native son of the countyseat town. He was born February 23, 1879. After being educated in the local schools he attended the Welch Academy at Columbia and the Gem City Business College, Quincy, Ill. When he had finished school, in company with Edwin A. Welty, he made a tour of Europe.

Returning to the United States he engaged in the lumber business with his father, R. S. Keeves, in 1903, in the same building on the east side in which he is now in the automobile busi-

ness with W. F. Bragg. When autos became popular as a means of conveyance about 1906, he secured the agency for the Ford car. In the spring of 1912, they sold out the lumber business to Ruley & Kunkel. Since that date he has been in the automobile and garage business exclusively, first with his father, later with H. C. Cook, and at present with William F. Bragg. They handle the Ford and Reo cars, besides doing a general repair business.

The subject of these paragraphs is the son of R. Stewart and Catherine R. (Farris) Keeves. They were early settlers in Oregon and for many years were prominent in the business affairs of the town.

John Keeves was married June 10, 1903, to Miss Pearl Hill, daughter of Thomas Hill and wife Louise (George) Hill of Forest City. They have one child, Catherine Louise. Mr. Keeve's lodge affiliations are with the Odd Fellows.

HERBY J. McDONALD.

Herby J. McDonald, proprietor of the Oregon Plumbing & Heating Company was born near New Point, December 31, 1873, and has ever since lived in Holt County. For the past six years he has been in business in Oregon and is meeting with success in his chosen field of endeavor.

When about five years of age his parents moved to the hamlet of New Point, where he grew up and where he received his education. He worked on farms in his early youth and in 1892 moved with his parents to Oregon, occupying a small farm about a mile east of town. For a few years he farmed on his own account and then began work for Schulte Brothers, where he learned the tinner's trade. Later he was employed by the late T. L. Price. He was with the firm of Bragg & Munn for several years. When that firm sold out he and W. F. Bragg engaged in the plumbing and heating business. August 20, 1914, he bought the interest of his partner and is now conducting the business alone.

He is the son of Ezra S. and Martha (Ruhl) McDonald, who came to Holt County in the days when steamboats landed a few hundred yards west of where the railroad station in Forest City is now located. Both are still living in Oregon.

H. J. McDonald was married September 12, 1899, to Miss Jennie Baker of Oregon. To them on August 11, 1900, was born one child, Grace Lucille. Mr. McDonald and his family are members of the Presbyterian church. He is a member of Fraternal Aid lodge. Politically he is a Republican.

CHARLES B. GRIFFITH.

Charles B. Griffith, 2708 Mitchell avenue, St. Joseph, Mo., a real estate dealer of that city, is a native son of Virginia and a resident of Holt County from 1871 to 1910, when he moved to St. Joseph. He was born in Page County, Virginia, November 1, 1861. When ten years old he moved to Holt County and settled on the farm of his brother James in Liberty Township. There the family lived for six years, when they bought a farm in section 34, and which is now the property of the subject of this sketch.

During the first two years of Mr. Griffith's residence in Holt County he herded cattle for Thomas Secrest and Christian Shultz, and later for Thomas Ward and Henry Cransler, for $50.00 per month. He corraled the cattle on the land which he afterward bought in 1882. After several years of hard work and economy he had 160 acres of fine Holt County land free from debt.

He was the son of Samuel Griffith who died in 1875, four years after coming to Holt County. Charles then took up the work of his father and managed the farm for his mother until her death in 1885. After several years of farm life he moved to Mound City where he engaged in building, painting and paper hanging. He moved to Chillicothe in 1907, to which place he moved to secure school advantages for his children, and where he followed the occupation of painting and paperhanging. He moved to St. Joseph in 1910.

Mr. Griffith was married in Kosahoska County, Indiana, November 1, 1891, to Eva Maxwell, who was born in Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Griffith are the parents of three children: Hazel F., married to Richard Adams, of St. Joseph and Oneta and Maxine, living at home. Politically Mr. Griffith is a Democrat.

SAMUEL G. ALKIRE.

Samuel G. Alkire is a farmer of Minton Township, who resides on his forty-acre farm in section 20, in the extreme southwest corner of the township. His farm is the original home of his father, Henry L. Alkire, who settled the place February 14, 1863. The farm was then in cottonwood timber and was bought from John R. Baldwin. Mr. Alkire cleared away the timber and by 1865 had made of it a fertile farm on which his son now lives. He was an active man in the affairs of the county, a prosperous farmer and accumulated several hundred acres of fine Holt County land. He lived on this farm until 1885, when he divided his real estate holdings, consisting of 320 acres among his five

children. He then bought the Brady farm east of Oregon, and later the Noland farm north of Oregon, living on these two places for about ten years. He then bought the John Q. Shepherd farm in Bigelow Township, where he lived several years. After living a year in Mound City he bought a farm north of that town and resided there until his death January 1, 1911, at the age of 82.

Samuel Alkire was born in Platte County, Missouri, February 11, 1856, and came to Holt County in 1863, and has since resided on the farms owned by his father. He was educated in the State Normal school at Kirksville, Mo.

Mr. Alkire was married to Lou Emma Penny, January 25, 1883. She was born in Beatrice, Nebr., August 18, 1865. One child has been born to them, Clyde, who died in infancy. They have raised one child, Howard, son of George Carter, who took the name of his foster parents and calls himself Howard Alkire. He is now 16 years old and has lived with Mr. and Mrs. Alkire since he was 2 years of age.

JUDGE JACOB WEHRLI.

Jacob Wehrli, former judge of the County Court, a prominent farmer of Liberty Township, and one of the enterprising citizens of the northern part of Holt County, was born in Cook County, Illinois, April 9, 1854. Through his own efforts, backed by good judgment and the application of business principles to his chosen vocation, he has reached the plane where he may be considered one of the exceptionally successful farmers of the county.

The subject of this sketch is the son of Peter Wehrli, who was one of the pioneers who made history in Holt County in the early days. He came here in 1866 and settled at Oregon. The family moved to the Ross Grove neighborhood in Liberty Township in 1869. Here Peter Wehrli took up farming and his son grew to manhood, receiving his education in the schools of the community in which he lived.

Judge Wehrli began farming on his own account in 1875. He began operation on his father's farm and has since come into possession of part of the original Wehrli homestead. Judge Wehrli is still living on the place where he first set out for himself.

The judge has been married twice. The first time was to Francis P. Ross in March, 1877. She was a resident of the Ross Grove neighborhood and died August 22, 1903. To this union was born seven children: Rosa Belle, now Mrs. Ott Markt, Pleasanton, Kans.; Mollie Jane, now Mrs. Abe Loyd, Seiling,

Okla.; Jonas Wesley, of Maitland, Mo.; Edward Garfield, of Firth, Nebr.; Ivy Lucinda, now Mrs. John Sachtleben, of Firth, Nebr.; John Franklin, of Cortland, Nebr.; Lillian Pearl, of Lincoln, Nebr. His second marriage was to Miss Jennie McDonald, of Oregon, which occurred December 20, 1905. Three children have been born of this marriage: Esther Louise, Ruby Dale and Russell Norman.

Judge Wehrli has always taken a live interest in public affairs. He has been constable of Liberty Township, road overseer and for about twenty years served on the local school board. In 1902 he was elected judge of the county court and served a four-year term. He has also served his country in the regular army. He enlisted in Buffalo, New York, in 1871, and served three years in western territory, principally in the Black Hills country in the Dakotas. His regiment explored much of that country and assisted in bringing it to the attention of settlers. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias and Woodmen of the World lodges. Religiously he is a Methodist and politically a Republican.

JOSEPH H. BOHART.

Joseph H. Bohart is proprietor of the coal, feed, flour and implement business in Maitland. He runs a mill in connection with his store and makes his own feed. He has been a farmer and merchant in Maitland and Graham for a number of years. He started in Maitland in 1882, with his brother, Peter L. Bohart, the style of the firm being Bohart Brothers.

Joseph H. Bohart was born in Clark County, Ind., February 18, 1854, and when ten years old the family moved to Graham, in Nodaway County. The elder Bohart engaged in business here and remained until his death in 1879. Young Bohart grew up in Graham and attended the schools there, the meanwhile clerking in his father's store. A year after his marriage in 1875 he was taken into partnership with his father, the firm being R. C. Bohart & Son. He remained in Graham until 1887, although he engaged in business in Maitland in 1882. After a year he sold his portion of the business of Bohart Brothers to P. L. Bohart, the other member of the firm. After he quit business in Graham Mr. Bohart formed a partnership with his cousin, Peter Maurer, and bought a half section of land in Nodaway County. For several years they engaged in feeding and shipping live stock on a large scale. He disposed of his farming interest to J. C. Bohart and in 1900 moved to the farm owned by his brother, P. L. Bohart, four miles south of Maitland. Four years later he moved to Maitland, and has since been in business there.

Mr. Bohart is the son of Richard C. Bohart and was married May 15, 1875, to Miss Martha E. Brink, a native of Ohio. They

have five children living: Stella, now Mrs. Jareome C. Kieffer, of Maitland, Mo.; Mabel Bohart, of Omaha; Clarence R. and John Q., of Maitland and Edgar A., of Chicago. Mr. Bohart is a member of the Modern Woodmen and Woodmen of the World lodges and the Presbyterian church.

JAMES LESTER BROWNING.

James Lester Browning, one of the successful farmers of Liberty Township, was born on his father's farm in Benton Township, February 17, 1875. He grew up on the farm and attended school at Pleasant Hill district. He married at the age of 20 years and moved to the farm he now occupies in Liberty Township, which consists of 400 acres, part of which lies in Benton Township. He has lived here since 1895 with the exception of four years when he lived in Mound City—from 1898 to 1903—when he was engaged in the harness business. Then he returned to the farm, but in 1911 he moved back to Mound City and built a beautiful residence there, at a cost of $6,000. He also erected the brick business block which he afterwards sold to the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company.

In the spring of 1916 Mr. Browning sold his town interests and moved back to his farm. He is the son of James Browning, who came from Kentucky to Holt County when a child. James L. Browning was married in Mound City, April 10, 1895, to Miss Florida Shultz, who was born December 14, 1871, on her father's farm in Benton Township, and is the daughter of Granville Shultz, one of the early settlers. Her father came to Holt County and settled in Benton Township at the same time the Brownings did, being among the first settlers in that part of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Browning have nine children: Goldie L., Frost A., Mildred, James Granville, George O. and Grace L. (twins), Helen M., Paul H. and Hazel.

REUBEN L. CASON.

Reuben L. Cason, a prosperous and influential farmer, has been a resident of Holt County since 1882. He lives on one of his farms in the northeast quarter of section 27, Benton Township. He also owns 120 acres in section 28, Benton Township, 75 acres in section 21, Benton Township. Mr. Cason has been unusually successful in his farming and feeding operations. He began his career without money and is now one of the most substantial men of Benton Township. He is a large stock feeder.

Mr. Cason was born seven miles south of Glasgow, in Howard County, Missouri, September 2, 1863. He came to Holt County when about 18 years of age, with his mother and brothers and sisters. They lived a short time in Hickory Township

and then moved to the Milt Herron property near Mound City, where they resided a little more than a year and sold the place to Thomas Ballard. In 1884 the family moved to Forest Township where they bought a farm of 100 acres from William Wood. On this farm the mother of this sketch lived until her death in 1892. Reuben remained on the farm until his marriage in 1889. He rented land at first and was a frugal, hard working lad. In consequence he soon began acquiring land of his own. In 1895 he bought 144 acres, for which he paid $30 per acre. Later he bought sixteen acres to fill out the quarter section. By subsequent purchases he now owns 225 acres of fine land. In the spring of 1916 he turned the active management of the place over to his sons Fred and Dale Cason.

He is the son of James Cason, a native of Virginia, who served as a captain in the Union army during the Civil war. Mr. Cason was married in Holt County, October 16, 1889, to Miss Minnie F. Hutton, the only child of Wash. Hutton, one of the pioneers and a very influential citizen. Mr. and Mrs. Cason are the parents of seven children: Daphene, wife of Earl Rock, of Benton Township; Mildred, wife of Gus Kuhn, of Hickory Township; Ruby, Fred, Dale Marjorie and John Cason, all living at home. Mr. Cason is a thirty-second degree Mason and a member of Holt lodge No. 341, I. O. O. F. He is an ardent Democrat and a warm supporter of the principles of politics laid down by the immortal Jefferson.

JACOB CLOOS.

Jacob Cloos, building contractor, has been in Mound City since 1895. He is one of the best mechanics in the county, as is evidenced by his work and the buildings he has erected. He was born in Hessen Nassau, Germany, December 12, 1871. He was eduacted there and later learned the cabinet maker and carpenter trade, in which vocation his father and grandfather were engaged for many years.

When 22 years old he came to the United States and for two years worked at his trade in various cities. He came to Mound City in 1895 and worked as a ourneyman until fourteen years ago when he engaged in business for himself. He has made a pronounced success of the contracting business and has prospered financially. He owns half a block on Savannah street, on which are three buildings, one of which, an eight-room modern residence, was built from plans which he himself drew. This place was sold as soon as the house was begun, to Fred Burks. He is building another fine seven-room residence on Savannah street. He has an up-to-the-minute shop which he built on his property in the spring of 1915. He also owns a farm six miles northwest of Mound City. Inasmuch as he came to Mound City

practically without a dollar it is evident that he has a right to be classed among the successful business men of the town.

Mr. Cloos is the son of William and Margaret Cloos, both of whom died in the old country. They have two children: Jacob and Christian who is in the Germany Army. Mr. Cloos is a member of the Woodmen of the World lodge and the German Lutheran church.

IRA E. CASTEEL.

Ira E. Casteel, proprietor of the Peoples' Meat Market in Mound City, located in that town in September, 1914, and bought out the William Field Market, and ran it in the Spitler building until May, 1916, when he moved to his present quarters in the Midland block. He was born in Nodaway County, Missouri, August 28, 1884, and is the son of John Casteel and one of a family of seven children.

Ira E. Casteel left Nodaway County at the age of four years, when the family moved to Buchanan County, where he grew to manhood. He learned the leather trade at the Endebrock Trunk Factory in St. Joseph, which he followed for seventeen years—six years in St. Joseph, two years in Kansas City and several years in Wichita, Kans., where he was manager and superintendent of the Wichita Trunk Co. Later he was with the Rose Trunk Co., of Atchison for three years. In September, 1914, he moved to Mound City.

Mr. Casteel was married November 19, 1903, at Kansas City, Kans., to Miss Edna Tatum, of Kansas City, Mo. They have one child, Ira F. He is a member of the M. B. A. order. He has built up an excellent business by strictly honest methods and by keeping his place at all times in a sanitary condition.

JOHN PETERS.

John Peters is marshal and street commissioner of Mound City and constable of Benton Township. He was born in Andrew County, Missouri, September 22, 1857. In 1864 he moved to Nebraska City, Nebr., where the family lived one year, the father dying there in January, 1865. That spring the remainder of the family returned to Missouri and took up their residence in Oregon, and Mr. Peters has since resided in the county. He grew up in Oregon, married there and remained there until 1893 when he moved to Mound City. For a number of years he engaged in the restaurant and butcher business. In 1909 he was elected marshal and street commissioner and has filled these offices to the satisfaction of the people down to the present day. He also has been constable of Benton Township for a number of years.

He is the son of David and Jane (Cotton) Peters, both natives of Indiana. Mrs. Peters, the mother of the subject of this sketch, died in Oregon in the spring of 1897. John Peters has been married twice. The first time was in Oregon, Mo., to Miss Mattie Cook, daughter of William Cook, one of the early settlers of Oregon. She died September 16, 1896. Four children were born of this marriage: Bird, Dora and Don, all living in Kansas City, and Ray, who died at the age of eighteen months. Mr. Peters was married the second time to his first wife's sister, Miss Nettie Cook, August, 1900. There have been no children by this union.

FRED E. CARPENTER.

Fred E. Carpenter is proprietor of the Maitland Grocery Store and also engaged in the rural mail service, being carrier on Route No. 3, out of Maitland. He was born in Clay County, Indiana, January 29, 1877. He was educated in the schools of his native county and when his education was finished engaged in farming and coal mining. He came to Holt County in 1899 and worked one year on a farm for William Hodgins. He then went to farming for himself. In 1909 he moved to Maitland and has since been mail carrier on rural route No. 3. He also engaged in handling sand for several years. He was also in the cement block business about a year.

Two years ago Mr. Carpenter built the large garage immediately north of the Groves Hotel, out of cement blocks from his own factory. In this structure he established a blacksmith shop. He traded this garage and business for a stock of groceries, which he still owns. In this enterprise he is assisted by his brother Clifford Carpenter.

Mr. Carpenter is the son of Joseph H. and Sarah Carpenter, natives of Indiana. He was married July 6, 1897, at Brazil, Ind., to Carrie Mattox. Four children have been born of this union, three of whom are living: Ellis, Carlton and Margie. Francis died eleven years ago, aged about two years. Mr. Carpenter is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

DR. JAMES C. TRACY.

Dr. James C. Tracy, one of the leading practicing physicians of Holt County, has lived in Mound City for the past forty-five years. He enjoys a fine business and is one of the most successful practitioners in this section of the state.

Dr. Tracy was born in Tecumseh, Nebr., and when a babe came to Mound City with his parents, and has since lived here. He is the son of Dr. John M. and Fannie (Binkley) Tracy. He

was educated in the Mound City schools and the old Normal school in Oregon. Later he attended the medical department of the University of Kentucky at Louisville, from which institution he was graduated in 1890. He was at once appointed to the interne staff of the hospital of that school. Afterward he took a hospital course in the St. Louis Medical college and similar work in the Bellevue Hospital Medical College in New York. His medical education completed he located in Mound City and is still practicing there.

He has always taken an active interest in matters political and has held several positions of trust and responsibility. He was appointed by President Grover Cleveland secretary of the United States Pension Examining Board for this dictrict. He also held the office of coal oil inspector for Holt County. For two years he was a member of the board of regents for the Maryville Normal School. The doctor is examiner for several life insurance companies. He was one of the charter members of Holt Camp No. 2508, Modern Woodmen of America and has been active in the conduct of the affairs of the camp since it organization. Largely through his efforts this organization has grown to be the largest lodge in the county. He has been an assistant district deputy for ten years and clerk of the local camp for thirteen years. He is also a member of the Knights and Ladies of Security.

Besides his lodge and professional activities Dr. Tracy finds time for out door sport and is the champion croquet player in the state. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and registrar of vital statistics for Mound City and Liberty and Benton Townships.

ERNEST F. WELLER.

Ernest F. Weller, president of the Farmers' State Bank of Maitland ,and a man who has been identified with the progress and development of the town from the day the first lots were sold, has been a resident of Holt County since 1865. He was born in Wurtenberg, Germany, July 27, 1845. In October, 1853, he landed, with his parents in Philadelphia. From there the family moved to Louisville, Ky., where they lived two years and where the elder Weller was the first German Baptist preacher. In the spring of 1855 they moved to Clark County, Ind., and in 1865 Ernest F. went to Clinton County, Iowa, from which place he came to Holt County in December, the same year.

Mr. Weller worked a time for Moses Laslie on what is now known as the Elliot place. In the spring of 1866 he began work for J. I. Brink, on what is known as the Groves place, and in the fall of that year he formed part of J. L. Gomel's threshing crew.

Mr. Gomel built Mr. Weller a house on Highly creek, where he lived until February, 1870, when he bought 60 acres of prairie land where Lem A. Meadows now lives. He moved the house to the land he had bought and lived there until 1874. He began his business career that year by putting in a small stock of goods in Whig Valley. In 1876 a town was laid out there and Mr. Weller was the storekeeper and David Kennedy the village blacksmith. Mr. Weller, also was postmaster at Whig Valley, the mail being carried from Bigelow to Graham, and Whig Valley was a way station.

Maitland was laid out in 1880 and soon became a rival of Whig Valley. Mr. Weller bought the first three lots in the new town and moved his store building and postoffice to the new town, selling goods and delivering mail enroute—it took two weeks to move the building. He located the building on the site now occupied by the Kelley hardware and furniture store.

In 1881 he sold the stock to Brady & Ewing of St. Joseph. Then, in company with Charles T. Donovan, of St. Joseph, he started the Farmers' bank at the same location in which that institution is still doing business. The bank opened for business December 1, 1881, and was the first banking house in the town of Maitland. Mr. Weller has continued in active charge of the business until the present day. The first building erected in 1881 was remodeled and modernized in 1907.

Mr. Weller is the son of Jacob and Katherine M. (Dingler) Weller, both natives of Wertenberg, Germany. They came to the United States in 1865 and were pioneers in the development of Clay Township. They lived on a farm and prospered as was their due. Mr. Weller, the senior, died on his 70th birthday in 1888.

E. F. Weller was married on the old Perkins farm, near Oregon, January 6, 1867, to Ruth Jenkins, who was born in Fairland, Shelby County, Indiana, November 16, 1846, and is the daughter of Henry and Rachael (Horton) Jenkins. Mr. and Mrs. Weller have had eight children: Ernest C. died November 11, 1888, and Ruth, who died May 30, 1887, when about three years old; Jacob H., a commission merchant of St. Joseph; John I., of Maitland; J. E., cashier of the Farmers' Bank; Robert T., bookkeeper in the Farmers' Bank; Mrs. Minnie DeBord, of Clay Township; Charles D., a real estate dealer in Maitland. Fraternally Mr. Weller is a member of the Masonic, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Woodmen of the World and United Workmen lodges. Politically he is a Democrat.

JAMES MORGAN WILSON.

James Morgan Wilson, a farmer born in Holt County fifty-four years ago,resides on his farm in Benton Township and is one of the prominent citizens of his part of the county.

Morgan, as he is known to his friends, was born in the old log cabin in Clay Township, situated in King Grove, on the old Abraham Moore farm, three miles northwest of Maitland, January 5, 1863, and has lived in the county all his life. Soon after the birth of Morgan his father bought a farm in Liberty Township north of Mound City. On that farm Morgan lived until 26 years old, when he married and moved to his own farm in the same neighborhood. Five years later he moved to Mound City where he lived two years. Then he moved to a farm owned by his father-in-law, William F. Caton, in Benton Township. There he resided for six or seven years. After two other moves he bought the farm he now occupies August, 1914. It consists of 230 acres and is one of the best farms in Benton Township.

He is the son of James E. Wilson, a native of Hardy County, West Virginia, who came to Holt County in the early days. He took an active interest in politics and was twice elected on the Democratic ticket to membership on the county bench. He died in August, 1907, at the age of 77 years.

James M. Wilson was married August 30, 1888, to Miss Maud M. Caton, who was born in Benton Township and is the daughter of William F.Caton, one of Holt County's old and respected citizens. They have seven children: David R., George H., Russell M., Edward F., Julian D., Glen E. and Maude L. Mr. Wilson has been a member of the Odd Fellows lodge in Mound City since 1889. Mr. Wilson is an enthusiastic outdoor sportsman and one of the best fishermen in the county.

ALFRED R. McNULTY.

Alfred R. McNulty, of Mound City, is a native of Holt County, is an ex-sheriff and constable and a well known citizen of Holt County. He is now engaged in farming, being the owner of an acre tract south of Mound City, but makes his home in the city at the old McNulty homestead. He was born in Benton Township September 23, 1866, and was a twin brother of Wiley A. McNulty, who died in March, 1901.

A. R. McNulty was born on his father's farm in section 9, Benton Township and there grew to manhood. He attended the Bagby and Mound City schools. In 1891 he moved to Mound City where he has since lived with the exception of six years residence in Oregon during the time he was sheriff. On moving to Mound City in 1891 he engaged in the livery business and ran a hack and mail line to Bigelow for fifteen years.

Mr. McNulty has always been an active Democrat and has been honored several times for his fidelity to the party. He was the first rural carrier appointed in the county, was deputy assessor under William H. Weightman, was elected constable in

1904 and served two years. In 1906 he was elected sheriff and after serving a two-year term was re-elected by a majority of 1,061, the largest majority ever received by any candidate for office in Holt County. By a change in the law he served a four-year term after this election. Since retiring from the sheriff's office he has been engaged in looking after his real estate.

He is the son of Asa S. McNulty, who came from Ohio to Holt County at an early day. He was married January 2, 1889, to Miss Minnie M. Blair, whose father James Blair came to Holt County with an ox team in 1839. Mr. and Mrs. McNulty are the parents of three children: Elby R., a member of L. Company of the National Guard, aged 23 years; Floyd F., of Mound City and Ruth, at home. Mr. McNulty is a member of the Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen lodges.

HARRY BOWNESS.

Harry Bowness, shoe dealer and shoe repairer, in Mound City, is one of the substantial business men of that city. He was born in County Westmooreland, England, May 26, 1862. After receiving a common school education he went to work in his father's shoe shop and learned the shoemaker's trade. After his apprenticeship he worked as a journeyman in England until 1893 when he came to the United States, settling first in Atchison County. He worked for a time on the farm of his brother, William Bowness.

Harry then came to Mound City where he has since been located. For several years he ran a repair shop in the Midland building. His trade grew and he prospered to the extent that he felt justified in putting in a stock of shoes. He was located in the Bennett building for several years. He moved to his present quarters in the Glenn block in 1916. He does an extensive shoe repair business. One thing that can be said of Harry Bowness, is that when he has done a piece of work it is done right, as he learned his trade in the days when boys had to serve a thorough apprenticeship, that made them masters of their trade or profession.

Mr. Bowness is the son of Edward and Agnes Bowness. They died in England. They have three children in the United States: William, an extensive farmer and stock raiser in Atchison County, Robert who lives with William and Harry, the subject of this sketch.

JOHN THOMAS ROSEBERRY.

John Thomas Roseberry has been a resident of Mound City since the fall of 1882. He is engaged in farming and dealing in

real estate. He was born in Hancock County, Ill., two miles west of Carthage, November 3, 1863. When six years old his mother died and he then made his home with his uncle, Thomas Graham, of Hancock County, who settled there in 1837. He lived with his uncle until 17 years old when, with his father he moved to Mound City where he has since lived. He has been engaged in various business enterprises, clerking, buying and selling hay, dealing in real estate, etc., but during the last three years he has devoted his time principally to the management of his farm in Benton Township. He owns the property in Mound City in which he lives, together with his farm land holdings.

Mr. Roseberry is of Scotch and English descent. His father, Loring T., was born in Adams County, Illinois, June 20, 1835, and died at Marysville, Kans., June 2, 1916. The subect of this sketch was married November 19, 1894, to Miss Elizabeth Hagan, a native of Tennessee, the daughter of Richard Hagan. They have two children: Ilah, wife of John Thompson of Holt County and Harry, of Yellowstone Park, Mont.

WILLIAM C. ANDES.

William C. Andes, of Mound City, is one of the early settlers of Holt County, and a prominent farmer and business man of the northern part of Holt County. He was born in Augusta County, Virginia, June 4, 1845. He came to Holt County and located on section 9, Benton Township. He learned the carpenter trade in Delaware County, Indiana, where he lived from 1853 to 1869. He worked at his trade in Indiana and after his father bought the farm in Benton Township he built the house, barn and other buildings on the place. As an evidence of his skill as a carpenter the house is yet in a good state of preservation and the same roof is yet on the building. He did carpenter work and lived with his sister, Mrs. Fred Nichols until 1871, when his parents came to this county and he lived with them a year, when he was married and moved to his father-in-law's place.

In the spring of 1874 he moved to his own farm in section 10, Benton Township, which he had previously bought. He prospered and bought 400 acres of land in that neighborhood. He lived on his farm in section 10 until 1889 when he bought his father's farm and moved to it, where he engaged in farming and stock feeding on a large scale. While yet living on the farm he engaged in the canning business in Mound City, giving that his personal attention during the canning season, until 1912. In 1885-86 he was in the hardware business in Mound City with James Criswell, under the firm name of Criswell & Andes. In the spring of 1916 he converted the canning factory into a fine double tenement house.

In 1909 Mr. Andes retired from farm life and moved to

Mound City to occupy the Grossbeck place, one of the old landmarks of the county. The house was built in 1856 and was known as Jackson's Point, where the first postoffice was located. Mr. Andes rebuilt the place in 1872. The property is now owned by his wife who traded a piece of land her father had given her for it.

Mr. Andes was married in Holt County, in Forest Township, February 15, 1871, to Miss Emma Schaefer, daughter of John Schaefer. Mr. and Mrs. Andes have five children living: Laura, wife of John Nixon, who now owns and lives on the old Andes farm; Eliza, wife of William H. Weightman, of Mound City; Bea, wife of William W. Murray, of Holt County; Grover, who lives on his farm south of Mound City and who married Edna Glick, daughter of Senator Glick; Nettie, wife of Roy Kuhn, of Holt County.

Mr. Andes is next to the oldest Mason of the Mound City lodge. He was first made a Mason in Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 77, at Anderson, Ind., in 1868. James Thompson was master of the lodge and gave Mr. Andes the degree work. Mr. Andes visited in Anderson in 1913 and Mr. Thompson was living at the age of 82 and vouched for Mr. Andes and took him into the old lodge as a visitor.

FRED M. BURKS.

Fred M. Burks, pharmacist and manager of the Harmon Drug Company in Mound City, while yet a young man, is making good in the business world in Mound City. He is the junior member of the firm with which he is connected. He was born in Nebraska, November 6, 1887. He decided to take up the drug business and entered the Harmon drug store as a clerk in 1903, and has since been with that firm. In 1912 he bought an interest in the store. This store is one of the oldest in Mound City under the same firm name, Frank Harmon starting the business twenty-eight years ago.

Mr. Burks was married in Mound City October 18, 1910, to Miss Lucile Bagby, a native of Holt County and the daughter of John C. Bagby, one of the pioneers of the county. They have one son, Dean Bagby, born June 15, 1916. He owns one of the modern houses in the city on Fifth street.

Mr. Burks has served in the city council as alderman from the First Ward. He is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge. He is the son of Sarah Burks of Mound City.

CHARLES SARE.

Charles Sare, proprietor of the Hiatt Hotel, one of the old-

est and best known hostelries in northwest Missouri, and one of the landmarks of Mound City, has been one of the active business men in that town for a good many years. Mr. Sare was born at Falls City, Nebr., June 8, 1874, where he lived until 1900, when he came to Holt County.

He was first engaged in farming in Benton Township, on a place he bought, known as the Alkire farm. He lived there until 1911 when he moved to Mound City and bought the Hiatt Hotel of U. G. Keaster. He conducted the hotel for about a year, which he sold out and clerked in the Shellenberger and Carter stores for about three years. He then engaged again in the hotel business.

The subject of this sketch is the son of Thomas M. and Sarah E. (Powell) Sare, born in Baltimore, Md., and Griggsville, Ill., respectively. His mother had the distinction of being a near relative of Daniel Boone, a famous character in the early days of Kentucky and other states.

Mr. Sare was married at Panonia, Colo., June 22, 1907, to Miss Hermine B. Dalchow, who was born in Lake City, Colo., June 2, 1882, a daughter of Albert and Theresa (Kolhne) Dalchow, native of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Sare have two children, Gertrude Pearl and Thomas Edwin. Mr. Sare is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge and Mrs. Sare is a member of the Royal Neighbors.

JOHN D. DODSON.

John D. Dodson owns and lives on his fine farm of 165 acres in the northern part of Bigelow Township, where he has lived the past eleven years. He was born in Clinton County, Mo., October 27, 1867. He lived there until 1899, and was educated in the public schools of Clinton. He learned the potter's trade when a boy and worked in Clinton until 17 years old. Seventeen years ago he came to Holt County with the intention of starting a pottery, but not being able to find the right kind of clay changed his plans.

He rented land from John Minton and Frank Bridgemon and farmed three years. Then he went to Schuyler County, Iowa, and lived there three years. In 1905 he returned to Holt County and moved to the farm on which he now lives, it being part of the Welton tract between Mound City and Bigelow. He is the son of William C. and Amanda M. Dawson, natives of Kentucky, but now residents of Bigelow Township.

Mr. Dodson was married in the old Tarkio Chapel, near Fortescue, October 14, 1890, to Effie Hinkle, who was born on her father's farm in Minton Township. She is the daughter of

William A. Hinkle, one of the early settlers in the county. They have five children: Harry E., Eugenie H., Joseph W., Howard R. and Mildred, all living at home except Harry, who lives in St. Joseph. Mr. Dodson is a member of the Woodmen of the World lodge.

ABE GRIFFITH.

Abe Griffith, a resident of Mound City, where he has lived the past six years, has been a resident of the county since 1871, and is one of the family of Griffiths who came here from Virginia and became prosperous farmers and good citizens. There were eight of the Griffith boys who emigrated here when young men. They have since made homes, married and reared their families in the county.

Mr. Griffith now owns 320 acres of the best farming land in the world. These two farms are in Liberty Township and are run by his sons, Ernest K. and Lester L. Griffith. Mr. Grifftih turned the farms over to the boys when he retired from active farming six years ago and moved to Mound City. He is now serving the city as alderman from the Third Ward.

Mr. Griffith was born in Page County, Virginia, October 2, 1854. There he grew to young manhood and in the spring of 1871 came to Holt County and settled in Liberty Township, buying the old Chapin place. He was exceptionally successful as a farmer and raised a fine family. He continued to reside in Liberty Township until 1909.

He is the son of Samuel and Rebecca (Housden) Griffith, both natives of Virginia. He was married at Brownsville, Nebr., April 12, 1881, to Miss Emma Jane Kite, also a native of Page County, Virginia. Mr. and Mrs. Griffith are the parents of three children: Ernest K., and Lester L., living near Mound City, and Arthur, who died when a babe. Mr. Griffith has been a member of the Odd Fellows lodge for twenty-five years. He is also a member of the Presbyterian church and helped build the church of that denomination at Pleasant View in Liberty Township.

ULYSSES G. KEASTER.

Ulysses G. Keaster is proprietor of the Gladstone Hotel, the leading house of the kind in Mound City. Mr. Keaster was born in Lewis Township, one mile north of Oregon, August 30, 1866, and has lived in Holt County all his life. When a babe he moved with his parents to Oregon where he lived until six years old, when they bought a farm in Hickory Township. There he grew to manhood, and was educated in the common schools and the Oregon high school.

He was married at the age of 22, but continued to live at home while he operated another farm in the same neighborhood, for five years. His wife died and he quit farming for several years. In 1900 he moved to Mound City and bought the Hiatt House and ran it for five years. He then sold that hotel and bought the Gladstone in 1911.

He is the son of John and Sarah Jane (Brown) Keaster. They came to Holt County from Pennsylvania at an early day and are yet living in Mound City. The senior Keaster was a contracting plasterer and worked all over Holt County. He also did several large jobs in St. Joseph.

Ulysses Keaster has been twice married. The first time to Miss Viola Ramsey, a native of Holt County, who died in November, 1905. One son was born of this marriage, Roy Ramsey Keaster. Mr. Keaster's second marriage was with Mrs. Eva L. Arnold. She has three children by a former marriage: Floyd, Thatcher and Albert Arnold. Mr. Keaster is now serving as a member of the city council in Mound City. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen, Knights and Ladies of Security and Yeomen lodges.

EDWIN FRANKLIN BURGE.

Edwin Franklin Burge, proprietor of the Mound City Electric Laundry is a native of Holt County. He was born on his father's farm in Bigelow Township, June 23, 1873. He lived there until 17 years old when the family moved to Liberty Township, near the Summit church north of Mound City, buying the old William Buth farm. Here the family lived until 1905 and Ed ran the farm, it falling to him on his father's death.

Then he farmed the Schultz and Fleming places one year each. He then bought the old John S. Smith farm of 150 acres, which he sold a year later and moved to Monte Vista, Colo., where he farmed one year. He then returned to Holt County and farmed the T. S. Hines place west of Bigelow five years. While on this place he broke the Holt County wheat growing record. He had in 100 acres of wheat which averaged a little more than 43 bushels per acre. He sold out in 1914 and in the spring of 1915 moved to Mound City and established an electric laundry, which he is still operating and of which he has made an exceptional success.

He is the son of James and Sarah (Ricker) Burge, natives of Indiana and Tennessee, respectively. Mr. Burge has been married twice, the first time to Miss Lissa May Butler, in Feruary, 1892. She died sixteen years ago. There are three children: Lester, Glen and Raymond Burge. His second marriage

was at Oregon, April, 1905, to Miss Hattie Bower of Valley County, Nebraska. Of this union has been born three sons: Edwin Franklin, Stanford Marion and James Robert. He is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge at Craig, Mo.

THOMAS CLARK.

Thomas Clark, assistant manager and moving picture operator of the Delpheus theater in Mound City, is a native of Holt County. He was born in Mound City in the old Hiatt House, conducted by his grandfather, W. T. Hiatt, April 13, 1886. He has lived in Mound City continuously with the exception of eight months in 1909-1910, when he had charge of the night run in the electric light plant at Burlington Junction, Mo.

Mr. Clark was educated in the schools of Mound City. When 13 years old he began work on his own account, being an industrious boy, never idle, and was the agent for the Weems Laundry for two years. Then he worked on a brick yard one summer, did odd jobs for a while, was on the section one summer and when 18 years old entered the employ of the Mound City Electric Light company and learned the electrical business. He remained with that company until 1907.

After returning from Burlington Junction he clerked in his uncle's hotel, the Hiatt House. In the fall of 1909 he opened a shining parlor and restaurant on his own account. In September, 1910, he went to work for his uncle, W. S. Hiatt, in the Bon Ton Theater, learning the moving picture business. In 1913 he went to the Delpheus theater, where he has since been operator and assistant manager.

He is the son of James M. and Louisa (Hiatt) Clark, natives of Indiana and Iowa, respectively. They came to Holt County in 1866 and settled near Oregon. Thomas Clark was married in St. Joseph, Mo., August 4, 1913, to Miss Sylvia F. Elder of Mound City. They have one son, James Marion, born June 21, 1914. Thomas Clark is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

JOSEPH G. WILSON, JR.

Joseph G. Wilson, Jr., is a native of Holt County and was born on his father's farm in Liberty Township, April 30, 1869. His entire life has been spent in the county. He resided on the old homestead until 40 years old, when the farm was sold to J. W. Hester. Joseph ran the farm several years after the death of his father. He then bought forty acres on Squaw Creek from his uncle, Joseph Wilson. He sold that farm and bought one known as the Spurlock farm in Liberty Township. Later he

traded this place for a section of land in Texas, but he still lives on the Liberty Township farm.

The subject of this sketch is the son of J. G. Wilson, one of the enterprising citizens of this part of the county. Joseph G. was married in Falls City, Nebr., in April, 1903, to Jesta Swaim, who was born in Benton Township, and daughter of Columbus Swaim, one of the pioneers of the county, and a Confederate soldier. She is one of a family of eleven children, all living and the boys are all Democrats.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson are the parents of four sons and one daughter: Robert E., Grace V., Neil S., Forest B. and Woodrow W. Mr. Wilson is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge and is a live wire.

NOLEY L. JACKSON.

Noley L. Jackson, who lives on his suburban farm of ninety-one acres, adjoining Mound City on the west, has lived in Holt County twenty-five years. He is one of the extensive farmers of South Benton Township and a large feeder and breeder of Duroc Jersey hogs.

Mr. Jackson was born in Sullivan County, Missouri, June 24, 1874. When ten years old the family moved to Nodaway County, where they lived five years, when they came to Holt County. His father, Rev. D. G. Jackson, was a Methodist minister and was sent from place to place by his conference. He remained in Holt County four years and preached at Shiloh, Brush College, Baker school house, Basset chapel and Forbes. He is now living at McConnelsville, O., and is yet on the circuit.

When Noley L. Jackson came to this county he was 13 years old. He was educated in the Shiloh and Mound City schools. At the age of 18 he started life for himself. He worked on farms until he was 25, when he rented the 210-acre farm now owned by Jake Glass in South Benton Township, and lived there three years. Then he bought the Sanborn farm of 152 acres in the Blair neighborhood. He engaged extensively in swine breeding and lived on this farm until 1911, when he sold to Rube Cason and moved to Mound City. He lived there four years and moved to the farm he now occupies, which he bought at the time he sold to Cason.

Mr. Jackson was married in Hickory Township, February 22, 1899, to Miss Myrtle Meyer, who was born in that township and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Meyer. They have one son, Lloyd, born April 22, 1903. Mr. Jackson is a member of the Odd Fellows, Woodmen of the World and Modern Woodmen lodges.

MORRIS BROTHERS.

Morris Brothers, farmers and threshers, the firm being composed of Frank and George Morris, are two progressive and prosperous citizens, who were born in Holt County on the old E. A. Brown farm in Bigelow Township.

They are the sons of George and Lucinda (Jackson) Morris, who came to Holt County from Illinois in the late '60's, after the senior Morris had served throughout the Civil war. He farmed in Bigelow Township until his death in July, 1909, at the age of 72 years. Mrs. Morris is living with her sons.

George and Frank Morris are two enterprising young men. They began farming when boys and now own and live on their 81-acre farm in section 8, Bigelow Township, where they have resided for twenty years, the place having been owned by their father. They also own 130 acres in section 9, Bigelow Township, which they bought in October, 1913, and which they also farm. Besides their farming operations they have been engaged in grain threshing for the past three years, owning a Red River Special thresher and an International engine. They are heavy raisers of corn which they market. George was born October 16, 1882, and Frank October 8, 1885.

LEMON W. NOTLEY.

Lemon W. Notley, living on his excellent farm of seventy-four acres in section 16, Bigelow Township, has resided in Holt County since 1867. He moved to this farm in the spring of 1887, when the land was covered with timber. By dint of hard work and industry he has converted the tract into one of the most productive farms in this part of the country. He also owns 52 acres one-half mile north of his home place.

He was born April 18, 1856, in Stevens County, Iowa, and when two years old the family moved to Texas. They came to Holt County in 1867, and his father was engaged for the first year hauling logs for the McCoy Mill on Big Tarkio. He then helped in the construction of the roadbed of the Burlington railroad which was built through Holt County in 1869. When the town of Bigelow started he built the hotel there which is now operated by "Dad" Schoonover. Later he bought a farm near the Tarkio Chapel church in Bigelow Township now owned by William Wagner. There the family lived several years. Mr. Notley died there in June, 1888, at the age of 84 years.

Lemon W. Notley was married in Bigelow Township March 4, 1885, to Miss Dora Alice Bridgemon, who was born in Bigelow Township and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Bridgemon. To them has been born one child: Allen W., who

is in the garage business in Bigelow. Mr. and Mrs. Notley have raised Ida and Verna, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. George Bridgemon, their parents being dead.

Mr. Notley was a charter member of the Woodmen of the World lodge in Bigelow. He is also a member of the Methodist church.

CHARLES E. CURRIER.

Charles E. Currier, who lives on his fine farm of sixty-seven and one-half acres in section 9, Bigelow Township, one mile west of the town of Bigelow, first came to Holt County about sixty-five years ago. He also owns thirty-six and one-half acres in Bigelow Township two miles southwest of the farm on which he lives.

He was born in DeKalb County, Illinois, September 13, 1851, and when a babe two weeks old, came to Holt County with his parents. His father was Isaac Billings Currier, a native of Vermont who moved to Illinois in the '40's and to Holt County in 1851 as stated. In 1857 they moved to Nemaha County, Kansas, and settled on the farm on which the old Jim Lane fort was built of logs to protect the settlers from the Indians. The family moved back to Holt County in 1865 and bought the old Epperson farm, now owned by Dr. Isaac Minton, and in 1870 returned to Kansas, where they settled in Brown County. In 1873 they again located in Holt County, this time permanently. The senior Currier engaged in the hotel business in Bigelow and was there until his death.

When the family returned from Kansas Charles E. Currier was first in the livery business; afterward conducting a saloon for three years. He then bought the farm on which he has since lived. The place was formerly owned by Henry C. Long, Mr. Currier's father-in-law, who came to Holt County in 1855, and settled along the bluffs south of Mound City. He was in the federal army during the Civil war and assisted in organizing the company which went from Holt County.

Mr. Currier was married on the place that is now his home, March 8, 1870, to Martha L. Long. They have one child living: Floyd Clinton Currier. Four children are dead: Charles Levi, Lou Mary, William W. and Nellie M.

LEON ELSWORTH MARKLAND.

Leon Elsworth Markland, who lives on his farm of eighty-five acres in Minton Township, one mile south of Fortescue, has lived in Holt County but four years, but he has made good in every way. He is an industrious, capable farmer, one of the progressive sort of which no community has too many. Besides

his home place he farms forty acres, adjoining, belonging to John C. Hinkle.

He was born in Armstrong, Howard County, Missouri, January 1, 1891. He attended the public schools there and clerked in a store in Armstrong. Later he was in the grocery business for himself, with his uncle Joseph Sterner, under the firm name of Sterner & Co. Then he attended the Kirksville Normal school, taking a teacher's course. In 1912 he came to Holt County and for two years lived with the family of Noland Hinkle, whose daughter he married in 1911. In 1914 Mr. Hinkle presented Mr. and Mrs. Markland with the farm on which they have since lived.

Mr. Markland is the son of Levi P. and Helen (Harris) Markland, both natives of Howard County, Missouri. They now live in Armstrong, where they have resided for a number of years.

Leon Markland was married at Moberly, Mo., December 4, 1911, to Miss Helen Hinkle, who was born on her father's farm in Minton Township. They have one daughter, Doris Virginia Markland.

JOHN F. GRISER.

John F. Griser, who resides on his eighty-acre farm in Minton Township one and three-fourths miles southeast of Fortescue, has lived in Holt County twenty-five years. He was born in Lyons County, Iowa, January 18, 1858. When a small boy the family moved to Franklin County, Missouri, where he spent his young days and then moved to Charitan County, Missouri, where he worked nine years on one farm and for the same man. He came to Holt County about 1889 and worked three years for John C. Hinkle.

He was married to Mr. Hinkle's daughter and moved to the place he now occupies. There were no improvements on the farm at that time, except an old house and a shed. Mr. Griser has built a fine home and outbuilding, has improved the land and made of it one of the finest farms in Minton Township.

The subject of this sketch is the son of George Casper Griser, who with his wife came to America in 1856. The senior Griser was a stone and brick mason and worked at his trade until his advanced age compelled him to quit. Twenty years ago he came to live with his son. He died March 19, 1916.

John F. Griser was married at the home of the bride's parents October 1, 1893, to Leona Hinkle. They have four children: Charles, Maude, Wilmer and Nellie, all living at home. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World lodge at Bigelow.

CHESTER A. ROZELLE.

Chester A. Rozelle is proprietor of the Maitland harness shop and also owner of the meat market on Second street. He is a native of the county, and was born on his father's farm, still in the family, in Clay Township, December 3, 1873. He lived on the farm until 21 years old, when he went to Maitland and began his business career in the capacity of a clerk. After a few years he returned to the farm and tilled the soil for six years. In 1904 he went to the Cherokee nation, in Oklahoma, when that country was thrown open for settlement. He secured 320 acres by purchase from the first Indian who had his restrictions removed when the land was alotted. He remained there until 1912, five years of which time he was in the employ of the Frisco railroad. During this time he was developing his land.

Returning to Maitland Mr. Rozelle ran the electric light plant for a year. He then worked at the harness trade for eighteen months. He bought the meat market from E. Galey in 1914 and the harness shop from R. S. Nowland in 1915. Mr. Rozelle is the son of Ed Rozelle, who came to Holt County from Ross County, Ohio, in 1870. He is still living in Maitland at the age of 79. Mr. Rozelle was married March 7, 1899, to Miss Blanch Everhart, daughter of Charles A. Everhart. They have two children, Mary and Martha. Mr. Rozelle is a member of the Woodmen of the World and Odd Fellows lodges.

HARRY M. DUNGAN.

Harry McFarland Dungan, probate judge of Holt County, was born October 21, 1871, at Clarinda, Ia. He moved to Nodaway County with his parents October 1, 1872, where he grew to manhood and was educated in the schools of Hopkins and the Missouri State University at Columbia. He took the degree of A. B. there in 1899 and was admitted to the bar in Nodaway County December 6, the same year.

Judge Dungan located in Oregon January 4, 1903, where he has since practiced his profession with the exception of four years in Jefferson City in the Insurance and Hotel Inspection Department. He was fraternal clerk in the former and at the head of the hotel inspection department. He was elected judge of the probate court in Novmber, 1914, for a four-year term.

He was married April 12, 1910, to Miss Grace Montgomery, at Oregon. Mrs. Dungan is a niece of Robert Montgomery, who for many years was engaged in the banking business in Oregon.

Judge Dungan is the son of Isaac J. and Amanda J. (McFarland) Dungan, natives of Indiana and Ohio, respectively. They were early settlers in Page County, Iowa, moving there in

the early '60's. The judge is a member of the Masonic order and himself and family are communicants in the Presbyterian church in Oregon.

WILL L. MOORE.

Will L. Moore, senior member of the firm of Moore & Kreek, grocers of Oregon, is the youngest son of Lewis I. Moore, who established the business which the subect of this sketch is now conducting in company with Harry E. Kreek.

Will L. Moore was born August 26, 1887, in Oregon, and with the exception of the time he spent in school elsewhere, has always lived here. He graduated from the Oregon high school with the class of 1907, and then attended the Armour Institute of Technology in Chicago and later the Ohio Wesleyan school at Delaware, O.

His education being completed he returned to Oregon and for several years was manager of the Oregon Canning factory, owned by his father. He and his father also shipped apples, handling from 100 to 350 cars each year. On November 10, 1915, his father retired from the grocery firm of Moore & Kreek and his interest passed to the subect of this sketch.

Mr. Moore was married June 15, 1916, to Miss Hortense Dungan, daughter of the late T. C. Dungan. They have two children: Will Lewis, Jr., and Corwin Dungan Moore. Mr. Moore is a thirty-second degree Mason and an Odd Fellow.

DON B. MARTIN.

Don B. Martin, of Oregon, is a young man who, by application, ambition and good habits, has succeeded beyond the usual present day young men in a business way, and he has a bright future before him. Although but 23 years old he holds the position of assistant postmaster of Oregon, and in the years 1913-15, was assistant county collector under H. S. Teare.

He is a native of the county, his birth occurring in Oregon January 30, 1894. He is the son of James B. and Emma (Dibble) Martin. They now reside on their fine farm in the northwest quarter of section 28, Lewis Township. Jeptha Martin, Don's grandfather, was one of the pioneers of Lewis Township. The county farm was purchased from him by the county years ago.

Don B. Martin graduated from the Oregon high school in 1912. He farmed for a while and later came to town to engage in other pursuits. He is a Democrat and when Hugh G. Harsha was appointed postmaster, Martin was named as assistant. Mr.

Martin is a member of the Christian church and the Odd Fellows lodge of Oregon.

DR. JOSEPH LAFAYETTE MINTON.

Dr. Joseph Lafayette Minton, member of one of the oldest families in Holt County, was born in Minton Township, November 23, 1853. His early education was in the common schools, after which he attended the high school at White Cloud, Kans. Later he took an A. B. degree at the Kirksville State Normal and graduated from the Missouri Medical College at St. Louis in 1880. He has since been practicing at Fortescue.

Dr. Minton was married at Kirksville, December 26, 1876, to Alice Foster, daughter of Balser B. and Belle (Jones) Foster, formerly of Tennessee, Ill. They have been blessed with five children: Nelle, the eldest, who died in infancy; Leta Warren, wife of Alva Sallee, of Minton Township; Harriet L., widow of the late Harold E. Shepard, of Marysville, Calif.; Joseph W., a veterinary student at the university at Ames, Ia.; and Jay I. E., a law student at the Missouri State University.

The doctor is a member of the Masonic blue lodge. Politically he is a Democrat and takes much interest in the affairs of his party. To further its interests he established the Mound City Jeffersonian. He owns one of the best selected private libraries in the state, of which he has a right to be proud. He devotes much time to the operation of his fine farm in Minton Township.

He was one of the organizers of the first telephone line in the county, it being principally for neighborhood and family use. The switch board was a home-made affair, but it worked and the service was good. This was in 1890.

He was one of the leaders in establishing the Bank of Fortescue and of the Consolidated School District. It was largely through his efforts that the two-story, modern brick school building was secured for the district. It has furnace heat, is well ventilated and modern in every respect. When the town of Napier was organized he bought many of the lots and built most of the houses there. He put through the deal for the first and only public road to that village.

Dr. Minton was appointed by Governor Stone as a delegate to the National Farmers Congress at Atlanta, Ga. He was also a delegate at Worcester, Mass., of the All Trades of America. For four years he was a lecturer on agriculture with the Missouri State Farmers Institute course.

DR. FRANK E. BULLOCK.

Dr. Frank E. Bullock, practicing physician, has been a resi-

dent of Forest City since August 4, 1881, and with two exceptions he holds the record for continuous practice in Holt County. The exceptions are Dr. J. M. Tracy of Mound City and Dr. J. T. Thatcher of Oregon.

Dr. Bullock was born in St. Lawrence County, New York, September 5, 1858. In 1865 his parents moved to Doniphan County, Kansas, where his father bought land six miles south of Troy. Frank E. assisted his father on the farm, meanwhile gaining his early education in the schools of the county. He taught school from 1876 to 1879. He then, at the age of 21 years, began the study of medicine. He attended the St. Joseph Hospital and Medical College, graduating in the spring of 1881. During his time he studied under Dr. J. M. D. France and Dr. J. D. Smith. The last two years he attended school he had charge of the old railroad hospital, the only hospital in St. Joseph at that time. Upon the completion of his professional education he moved to Forest City on August 4, 1881, where he has since resided and practiced his profession. He is a member of the Holt County Medical society, the Missouri State Medical association, the Medical Society of the Missouri Valley. He also holds a fellowship in the American Medical association.

He is the son of Willis W. Bullock, a native of New York State. The Bullock family, originally, was Scotch. They came to the United States about four generations ago and settled first in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Later the doctor's father took up his residence in New York. Willis W. Bullock came to Iowa in 1862 and in 1865 moved to Doniphan County, Kansas, where he died December 26, 1915, at the age of 84 years. His wife was Cynthia O. Hastings, also a native of New York. Her ancestors were English, coming to America in the Puritan days and taking up their abode in Massachusetts. She was married to Willis W. Bullock in 1857 in New York and is still living at Bendena, Kans., with her daughter, Mrs. Garnett Ricklefs. Mr. and Mrs. Willis W. Bullock were the parents of seven children, one of whom died in infancy. Those living are: Frank E., of this sketch; Willis, of Nodaway, Mo.; Aaron S., of St. Joseph; Dr. E. H., superintendent of the State Hospital at St. Joseph; Joseph J., of Neosho Rapids, Kans., and Mrs. Garnett Ricklefs, of Bendena, Kans.

Dr. Frank E. Bullock was married March 30, 1882, to Miss Alice B. Chadwick, of Fairport, N. Y., who was born August 7, 1863. They have seven children: Mrs. May G. Birch, of Port Townsend, Wash.; Oscar D.; Mrs. Laura H. Milne, who died April 9, 1916; Bruce, a farmer of Forbes Township; Mrs. Belle Fairbanks, of Forest City; Bernice T., at home, and Frank Theodore. Dr. Bullock has been resident surgeon for the Burlington railroad since 1881. Fraternally he is a Mason and politically a Republican with Progressive tendencies.

GEARGE W. LEASE.

George W. Lease resides on a 320-acre farm which is located in the corner of the four sections 17, 18, 19 and 20 in Minton Township, on land originally owned by Henry Minton, and which was bought in November, 1913. This is one of the finest farms in the county. Mr. Lease ordinarily farms 150 acres of corn, twenty-five acres of alfalfa, twenty acres in wheat, fifteen acres in oats and the remainder of his farm is devoted to grazing.

Mr. Lease was born in Forest City September 13, 1872, where he was educated. At the age of 18 he began clerking for J. M. Ford & Co., went to Minnesota and Montana, returned to Forest City in 1894 and three years later began farming. In 1903 he began clerking for W. E. Richards in Forest City; in 1906 he and Mr. Richards bought William Hitt's interest in the Forest City Lumber Yard, the firm name being Richards & Lease. His next change was to Fortescue where he bought a stock of merchandise in August, 1911. He sold this in the fall of 1913 and the following spring moved to the farm on which he is now living.

He is the son of Tobias and Mary (Poe) Lease, natives of Kentucky and Virginia, respectively, who came to Buchanan County in 1844 and to Holt County in 1850. Tobias Lease died in Forest City in December, 1898; his wife is still living.

George W. Lease was married June 6, 1894, to Maria J. Wilson who was born in Iowa and is the daughter of John B. and Charlotte F. Randolph. They have three children living: Ethel, Floyd and Faithful. Charlotte, the eldest died when 7 years old. He is a Mason and a Shriner.

D. CLINTON PORTER.

D. Clinton Porter, whose fine farm of 500 acres is in North Benton Township, owns and lives on the old homestead of his father. He was born there January 24, 1852, in the old frame house which stands on the place and which now serves the purpose of a garage. This house was built in 1855. D. C. Porter built the present brick residence in 1886.

Mr. Porter was married in Holt County March 19, 1886, to Miss Julia Fries, who was born in New York. They have five children: Earl, Jessie, Clarence, Floyd and Donald. They are still living on the farm, the father overseeing the work and enoying the evening of his life.

Earl, the eldest, married Pearl Thomas, who was born in Holt County and is the daughter of Matt Thomas, one of the early settlers of the county. They reside in Benton Township on one of his father's farms.

D. C. Porter is the son of Cummings Porter, one of the early settlers of North Benton Township, who came to the county in 1850. He bought 160 acres, where his son Clinton Porter now lives from the Dodge heirs. Later he became the owner of other lands nearby and at his death was one of the wealthy land holders of the county. He was prominent in the public affairs of the community and a good citizen. He was born in Washington County, Ohio, and died June 20, 1910, at the age of 90 years.

DR. BERT G. PIERCE.

Dr. Bert G. Pierce, dentist, of Oregon, was born in Forbes Township, November 12, 1877. He has lived in Holt County all his life, with the exception of time spent at school. His early education was obtained in the common schools supplemented by a course in the Southwestern College at Winfield, Kans. He graduated from the Western Dental College in Kansas City in 1901. He has since practiced in Oregon, has a finely equipped office and is very successful.

He is the son of Charles W. Pierce, who came to Holt County from Baltimore, Md., in 1844, and located in Forbes Township. He died in Oregon, June 17, 1904, at the age of 74 years. His wife was Elizabeth Jane (Keeney) Pierce, of Chattanooga, Tenn. Her father was a mill wright and contractor and built the first dam across the Chickamauga River at Paducah, Ky., which was used by the Union army in crossing that stream during the Civil war. Mrs. Pierce died December 29, 1909, at the age of 74 years.

Dr. Pierce was married August 10, 1898, to Miss Edith L. Hunt, daughter of the late Cave J. Hunt. They have two children: Rowena and Erle. Dr. Pierce is a member of the Masonic lodge at Oregon and the Shrine and Elks lodges in St. Joseph.

ROBERT G. RULEY.

Robert G. Ruley is a native of Oregon and has always made that town his home. He is the senior member of the firm of Ruley & Kunkel, lumber merchants of Oregon. Mr. Ruley was educated in the public schools of Oregon. After leaving school he clerked for T. L. Price, L. I. Moore and G. W. Cummins, five years each. In the fall of 1898, in company with Ira Peter he formed a partnership, under the name of Peter & Ruley, and engaged in the lumber business. This firm continued in business until 1902, when Roy C. Kunkel bought Mr. Peters' interest. In the spring of 1913 they built one of the most modern plants for handling lumber and kindred articles to be found anywhere in the country. It is located on tracks, near the Oregon Interurban depot.

During the Folk administration Mr. Ruley was appointed circuit clerk to fill out the unexpired term of George W. Hogrefe, who died in office. Mr. Ruley served two years in this office and has since served as city clerk and alderman in Oregon.

He was born July 31, 1872, and is the son of Charles L. Ruley, a native of Old Virginia, who has been a resident of Oregon for many years. He is a carpenter by trade and has built many of the older buildings in the town. He is still living at the age of 78 years.

R. G. Ruley is a member of I. O. O. F. and Masonic lodges and is a Shriner. He was married September 23, 1897, to Miss Anna Roecker, a daughter of the late Albert Roecker. They have two children, Pauline and Glen.

Mr. Ruley is also a partner in the hardware business with H. S. Teare, the firm name being Teare & Ruley.

ARTHUR J. COTTON.

Arthur J. Cotton, senior member of the firm of Cotton & Lyons, of Forest City, dealers in hardware and implements, was born in Lewis Township, September 1, 1870. He worked on his father's farm until 17 years old, when he moved to Forest City. He first purchased a butcher shop and was in that business for about three years. He then bought the J. B. Lamb stock of general merchandise and three years later went into the farm implement business with his father, Judge G. W. Cotton, under the firm name of Cotton & Son. Three years later he formed a partnership with Williams & Lyon, hardware dealers and consolidated the stock under the name of Cotton, Lyons & Co. Three years later Williams sold to his partners and style of the firm has since been Cotton & Lyon.

Arthur J. Cotton is the son of Judge G. W. Cotton, a native of Kentucky, who moved to Holt County before the Civil war and served in the Union army during the stirring days of the '60's.

The subject of this sketch was married May 18, 1908, to Olive Carr, who was born in Nebraska and the daughter of Daniel Carr. They have two children, Dale and George William. Religiously Mr. Cotton is a Methodist. He is a member of the city council in Forest City and is active in the public affairs of the town. He and his father own eighty acres of land in Forbes Township. Mr. Cotton also owns a fine home in Forest City.

JOHN T. GARRETT.

John T. Garrett, farming the Ed McCoy place in North

Benton Township, was born in Atchison County, just across the Holt County line, on the Abel Lawrence farm, February 7, 1882. When two years old he came to Holt County and lived on the John Miller farm seven years. Then he moved to the Ridge Show place where he lived two years. The family then moved to Choctaw Nation, Oklahoma, but returned to Holt County the next year. Soon after Mr. Garrett rented the McCoy place where he now lives.

He is the son of William J. and Mary E. (Foreman) Garrett, both natives of Kentucky. Mr. Garrett is still living but his wife died twelve years ago.

John T. Garrett was married in Craig, June 13, 1906, to Myrtle Brooks, who was born in Holt County. They have one son, Ernest Raymond Garrett, born June 11, 1910.

Mr. Garrett is a hard working practical young farmer; is ambitious and is making a success of his undertaking. His future is bright and he will undoubtedly be one of the men of influence in his neighborhood before many years.

RICHARD LIPPOLD.

Richard Lippold lives on and with the assistance of his sons farms the J. D. Davis place of 570 acres as well as Mr. Lippold's own farm of eighty acres. They operate on a large scale, using tractors and other labor saving machinery. Ordinarily they raise 500 acres of wheat and about 300 acres of corn. They have their own threshing outfit. Mr. Lippold is assisted bq his sons, Emil, Allen and Howard and by his son-in-law, James Forney.

Mr. Lippold was born in Atchison County, Missouri, August 3, 1862. At the age of 3 years he moved with his parents to Richardson County, Nebraska, where his father bought a farm. It was washed away by the Missouri River when Richard was 12 years old. Then the family went to Falls City, Nebr., where the senior Lippold engaged in the mercantile business for seven years. Then they lived in the western part of Nebraska for three years. In 1883 Richard came to Holt County and for seventeen years was engaged in the saw mill business, during the winter months and farmed during the summer. Nine years ago he bought the 80-acre tract on which his eldest son lives. Four years ago he rented the large tract on which he now lives.

The subject of this sketch is the son of Oswald and Rosa Lippold, natives of Germany who came to America in 1846. Richard Lippold was married in Falls City, Nebr., November 26, 1886, to Sarah Robinson, who was born in Holt County. They have four children: Emil, Allen, Howard and Mrs. May Forney, all living in Minton Township.

WILLIAM J. ALKIRE.

William J. Alkire has resided on a fine farm of 160 acres in Minton Township since July, 1880. He came to Holt County in the spring of 1855, with his father, Elijah Alkire, who bought a farm of Hiram Upton, then in Lewis, but now in Minton Township, the place now owned by J. P. Davis. William J. was 4 years old when his parents came to the county; he lived with them until he was 23 years old. Then he began life forhimself on acres of land which his father gave him, southeast of Fortescue. He lived there six years, when he bought the farm he now occupies from J. L. Minton, and which he has greatly improved.

Mr. Alkire was born in Platte County, Missouri, August 25, 1851. He is the son of Elijah and Sarah (Farrar) Alkire. They came to Holt County in 1855.

William J. Alkire was married in Oregon, October 15, 1874, to Martha J. Boyd, who was born in Holt County in 1853, and the daughter of Joseph Boyd, one of the early settlers. Mr. and Mrs. Alkire have five children: Joseph E., a merchant of Forest City; Cora, wife of Charles Van Camp, of Minton Township; William H., County Collector, living in Oregon; Ira Lee, of Minton Township, and Nellie, wife of Roy Hinkle of Bigelow Township.

He is a member of the Forest City lodge of Masons, joining that order in 1873, his father being a charter member of the lodge at that place. He has served as a member of the school board for a number of years.

GEORGE H. MINTON.

George H. Minton is the son of Henry Minton, who was one of the pioneers of Holt County and the father of the large Minton family, in whose honor the Township of Minton was named. Henry Minton was a successful farmer and acquired about 200 acres of land which he gave to his seven children before his death. He was born in Kentucky in 1822; came to Franklin County, Missouri, in 1830 and to Holt County in 1848 on a prospecting trip. He liked the country around Fortescue and marked a tree so he could find the spot when he returned later to locate permanently. The gold fever came on the following year and he went to California where he prospected for two years. He returned in 1850 and located in Holt County, but another settler had homesteaded the claim on which he had marked the tree. He took up land on the river in what is now Minton Township and there the Minton family has lived and prospered. The first farm which he undertook to improve was taken away by the river in the early '70's. He then moved to the farm now owned by his son, Hampton Minton, and remained there until his death in 1902.

George Minton was born on his father's first settlement in Holt County September 23, 1866, and has lived in Holt County all of his life. He attended the Idlewilde school and later the University of Missouri. He moved to his present farm of 480 acres in 1893. He also owns 120 acres southwest of Fortescue and a third interest in 280 acres south of Napier.

Mr. Minton was married February 22, 1893, to Ida V. Brown, who was born in Franklin County, Missouri, and the daughter of Joseph and Evisa V. Brown. One child has been born of this union: Fay Minton.

Mr. Minton is a Mason, having joined that order twenty years ago. Ten years ago he joined the Shrine at St. Joseph.

JOHN C. HINKLE.

John C. Hinkle, one of the very fine elderly gentlemen of Minton Township, came there in 1855 and has since lived in that vicinity. He is the oldest living of the old timers who made the early history of this part of Holt County, except Mrs. Henry Minton of Minton Township, who is the daughter of Joseph Boyd from whom Mr. Hinkle bought his first land in this county. Mr. Hinkle is bright and active for one of his years and has never been sick but once since coming to Holt County. In his younger days he cleared 600 acres of land of heavy timber and at one time owned more than 1,600 acres of fine land. This he has divided among his children until his holdings are now much smaller. However, he still owns and manages 400 acres of the old homestead.

In 1883 the Missouri River began cutting away his land and in a few years several hundred acres had disappeared, including what was then his home place. After the river had destroyed his home in section 18 where he located in 1855 he built the brick house in the northeast quarter of section 12, in which he is now living, and moved there. His first home was built of native cotton wood lumber and when the river began cutting in the '80's, he moved it to land he then owned in section 7, on which his son-in-law, John F. Griser and wife now live.

Mr. Hinkle was born in Franklin County, Missouri, April 23, 1837. When 18 years old—in 1855—he came to St. Joseph by steamboat and hired a Frenchman to haul him to Minton Township, where his brother, Eli P. Hinkle was then living. Thus began the long, useful career of one of Holt County's best citizens.

He is the son of Adam Hinkle, who was born in New Market County, Virginia, who came to Franklin County, Missouri, in 1839 and died there August 27, 1843.

John C. Hinkle has been married twice. The first time to Susan P. Noble, in Scotland County, Missouri, August 5, 1858, a daughter of John Noble of Kentucky. Mrs. Hinkle died May 5, 1887. To this union was born six children: John A., of Rulo, Nebr.; Jahuah, of Minton Township; William C., who died April 16, 1865; George W., of Minton Township; Leora O., who married John F. Griser of Minton Township and Byron L., of Minton Township. Mr. Hinkle was married again January 24, 1889, to Miss Elvisa V. Brown, of Franklin County, Missouri. There are four children by this union: Emmett, of Minton Township; Opal, who died when a babe; Helen, who married Leon Markland; Alpha, who lives at home. Mrs. Hinkle has four children by her first husband, Joseph Brown: Ada Hinkle, of Minton Township; Ida Minton, of Fortescue; William C. Brown, of Minton Township and Bertha N. Dodson, of Elwood, Kans.

Mr. Hinkle has been a member of the Masonic lodge in Forest City since 1887. During the Civil war he was a Confederate soldier.

BEN M. TERHUNE.

Ben M. Terhune, of Mound City, is the senior member of the firm of Terhune & Young, dealers in hardware, implements and automobiles. He was born in Benton Township April 18, 1875, and has since lived in that township. He attended the Mineral Springs school and worked on farms in the neighborhood until a young man and farmed the place on which his father lived for several years prior to 1897. He was the youngest member of the family and the care of his parents fell to him as the other members of the family had scattered for themselves. Ben is a self-made man, starting with nothing and is now one of the leading business men of Mound City.

In 1897 he moved from the farm to Mound City and went into the fuel and feed business, with his brother Robert, the firm name being Terhune Brothers. In 1900 he and his brother Robert and James Gibson formed a partnership under the title of Terhune, Gibson & Terhune and opened a stock of hardware, implements, buggies and furniture in the Mumm building. Five years later they sold to W. O. Yous and Ben and his brother Robert opened a hardware stock in the old Book building. Two and a half years later Robert sold to George C. Young and the style of the firm has since been Terhune & Young.

The subject of these paragraphs is the son of George Parker Terhune, who with his wife came to Missouri from Kentucky in 1859. The senior Terhune died in 1897.

Ben Terhune was married October 15, 1902, to Dessie Long, who was born in Benton Township, and is the daughter of Dr.

W. A. Long who died in November, 1915. They have one son, John R. Terhune. Mr. Terhune is a member of the Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen lodges.

ROBERT E. ENSMINGER.

Robert E. Ensminger bought and moved to his present farm of 103 acres in South Benton Township in 1912. He farms on a large scale and uses an oil tractor and other modern labor-saving machinery. Although but 24 years old he is showing some of the older heads how to farm and hustle. His mother died when he was a babe and he was left to shift for himself and when a mere lad began the battle of life alone and unaided. He has succeeded by hard work and frugality and will some day be one of the wealthy farmers of Holt County.

He was born at Rock Port, Atchison County, Missouri, January 17, 1891. There he lived with his father and step-mother until 9 years old, when he started out for himself, and has since "hoed his own row." He worked as a farm hand in this county and in Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas. He also worked two years for Cassady & Moore, railroad contractors between Caldwell, Kans., and Fort Worth, Tex. He then returned to Holt County and worked on a farm for O. D. Batman three years; then he lived a year on the Dave Munkers farm. Four years ago he bought the John W. Prugh farm in South Benton Township, where he now lives.

Mr. Ensminger is the son of Andy and Catherine Ensminger, natives of Indiana. He was married February 25, 1911, to Homie May Batman, who was born in Benton Township and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. D. Batman. Mr. and Mrs. Ensminger are the parents of two children: Raymond and Lloyd.

FRED LAWRENCE.

Fred Lawrence lives on his fine farm of 400 acres in North Benton Township, which formerly was the property of Joseph Groves, now deceased. He was born in Union Township, October 6, 1871, the month and year of the great Chicago fire. He resided on his father's farm until his marriage at the age of 24 years. He then began farming for himself on a farm adjoining that of his father on the east, and which he purchased in 1895. In 1907 he bought another farm in the neighborhood and lived there until the spring of 1912, when he moved to his present farm.

He is the son of Hosea B. and Mary S. (Curry) Lawrence, natives of Ohio. They came to Holt County in 1855 and in 1871 bought the farm in Union Township on which they now live. Mr.

Lawrence has been very successful and is an influential man in his township. He owns 860 acres of land in Holt County, 200 acres in Atchison County and 500 acres in Decatur County, Kans. He also owns property and a feed mill in Craig; is a stock holder in the Farmers & Merchants Bank of Craig and has been its president for a number of years.

Fred Lawrence was married January 1, 1896, to Miss Emma A. Smith, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. They have four children: Neil S., Dale, Eva and Hosea Bertie. Mr. Lawrence is a member of the Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen lodges.

DR. E. M. MILLER.

While Dr. Miller is regarded as one of the ablest physicians at Mound City his varied business interests in that locality have obliged him in recent years to give up much of his practice, except such as he can attend to in his office, and he is now one of the leaders in progressive affairs in Holt County.

Dr. E. M. Miller was born at Troy, Ohio, October 6, 1869, a son of H. H. and Hesther (Enyart) Miller. His father was a farmer, and was also engaged in the milling business, and handled large quantity of walnut timber. Dr. Miller spent the first fifteen years of his life on a farm, and in that time attended country schools. After that he was reared in the City of Troy, and attended the high school there. His higher education was acquired in the west and he has both the Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Baker University of Kansas. Dr. Miller is a graduate M. D. from the Ensworth Medical College at St. Joseph, having taken his degree in 1897. He was also connected with that institution for seven years as one of the lecturers.

Since coming to Mound City Dr. Miller has built up a large practice as a physician, but soon became closely identifiefid with business affairs. He organized the Holt County Telephone Company, and was associated with George W. Meyer, R. E. Decker, R. W. Neill and others in the organization of the Mound City Electric Light Company, and has been president of the company for the past ten years. He has been identified with the Mound City Commercial Club since its organization, and was one of the leaders in the Commercial Club campaign which brought about the paving of the business section of Mound City. Since coming to Mound City Dr. Miller has been surgeon for the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad.

Dr. Miller was married in Mound City to Anna L. McCoy, daughter of Thomas W. and Laura (Keedy) McCoy. Their three children were all born in Mound City and are named Margaret, Edwin and Robert. Dr. Miller is at the present time serving as a member of the school board, and is deserving of much credit

for his work in securing the erection of the present handsome school building, which cost the city about $50,000. Dr. Miller served as one of the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church and has been quite active in Democratic politics, having been a member of the board of managers of Hospital No. 2 under Governor Joseph W. Folk. Fraternally his associations are with the Masonic lodge No. 294, at Mound City, with Scottish Rite Masonry up to and including the thirty-second degree, and with the Temple of the Mystic Shrine at St. Joseph. He is also a member of the Woodmen of the World.

CORBIN CLIFT.

Corbin Clift, proprietor of a pool hall in Forest City, Mo., was born in Forbes Township, Missouri, November 3, 1872. He lived there on the home farm until 1893, when he was married and began farming for himself on rented land. Then he farmed the old home place one year and moved to Loveland, Colo., where he worked twelve years in the rock quarries there, after which he engaged in farming two years. Then he returned to Holt County, Missouri, and bought the pool hall in Forest City.

He is the son of Benjamin F. and Mary (Morrison) Clift, natives of Kentucky and Missouri, respectively. They settled in Forbes Township in the early days. Benjamin F. Clift died in the spring of 1894 at the age of 83 years; his wife is still living and although 78 years old enjoys good health for one of her years.

Corbin Clift was married December 24, 1893, to Elizabeth Chandler, who was born in Andrew County, Missouri. They have five children: Mary Ellen, Maggie Lee, Florence Vesta, Josephine and Francis Corbin. Mr. Clift holds membership in the Modern Woodmen lodge in Forest City and the Loyal Order of Moose in Colorado.

NELSON H. COOK.

Nelson H. Cook, postmaster at Forest City, has been a resident of Holt County for more than thirty-five years. He was born at Fairport, New York, September 1, 1858. He was educated in the Fairport Academy and when about 19 years old moved to Forest City, which town has been his home ever since, with the exception of one year spent in Illinois.

He engaged in teaming and other work soon after locating here and for fourteen years was proprietor of the city dray line. He was appointed postmaster by President Wilson July 23, 1913, and is serving the patrons of the office efficiently and satisfactorily.

Mr. Cook was married August 13, 1884, to Leona B. Ford, a native of Fullersburg, Ill. They have five children: Frank, Arthur, Wesley, Belle and Irene. He is the son of Wesley and Maria (House) Cook, natives of New York. Mr. Cook is a member of the Odd Fellows, Masonic, Woodmen of the World, Eastern Star and Rebekah lodges. He is also a member of the Missionary Baptist church.

DANIEL KUNKEL.

Daniel Kunkel, deputy county clerk under his son Daniel B. Kunkel, was born in Crawford County, Ohio, December 12, 1844. In November, 1847, when not quite three years old he came to Holt County with his parents and settled one mile east of Oregon in Lewis Township where he resided during his younger days and attended the public schools. During the time he assisted his father in the flour mill which the senior Kunkel had built on Mill Creek in 1851, and which was one of the first mills in the county.

In October, 1861, Mr. Kunkel enlisted in Company F, Fourth Missouri S. M. Cavalry, commanded by Col. Geo. H. Hall of St. Joseph. He served throughout the war and was mustered out April 8, 1865. He was in the battle of Springfield, January 8, 1863, and through the Joe Shelby and Price raids in 1863 and 1864. He was also in the battle of Newtonia, in southwest Missouri in August, 1862. After the war Mr. Kunkel returned home and settled down to business. He went to work in his father's flour and woolen mills, the latter having been built in 1863.

In 1887 he was elected county clerk and served four years. When he had completed his term of office he again engaged in milling for several years. In 1907 he moved to Trask, Howell County, Mo., where he owned a large tract of land. He lived there three and one-half years when he moved to St. Joseph and lived there a year. He then returned to Oregon, the old home town, built a home and has since been a factor in the life of the community.

His parents were of sturdy German ancestry. His father, Daniel Kunkel, was born in York County, Pennsylvania, May 1, 1815. The following, relative to his life, is taken from an old atlas published in Holt County in 1877:

"When ten years of age he removed to Crawford County, Ohio. His younger days were employed in chopping wood and rolling logs. By this means before he was 21, he earned eighty acres of land. He was a genius in the use of tools and worked at all kinds of occupations. He was married when 21 years old to Veronica Buehler, of Crawford County, Ohio. In 1847 he came to Missouri and settled in Lewis Township, Holt County,

where he lived many years. The first season after coming to Holt County he made fifty wheat cradles and other useful farm articles. In 1851 he built one of the first grist and flour mills in the county on Mill Creek, near his residence and in 1863 he put up a woolen mill at the same place and ran these properties for a number of years. He has made several inventions, including blacksmith's tongs, drill extractor and two improvements on washing machines, which are used to the present day. His washing machine has taken the premium at all fairs, including the highest award at the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia."

Mr. Kunkel, senior, died in 1901, at Kansas City, to which place he had removed several years previous.

The subject of this sketch was married December 12, 1871, to Miss Mary Ellen Casey, a native of Missouri, who was born in Andrew County, and when a child was left an orphan. Four children have been born of this union, three living: Ida V., wife of E. L. McDonald, of St. Joseph; Roy C., and Daniel B., of Oregon. Fraternally Mr. Kunkel is a member of the Odd Fellows and the Grand Army of the Republic. He is a member of the Evangelical church.

CHARLES O. VAN CAMP.

Charles O. Van Camp, a successful farmer of Minton Township, lives on his farm of 480 acres, his residence being in section 10. He was born north of Fortescue, near the Big Tarkio bridge, at what was then called Book's Saw Mill, October 22, 1875. He has always lived in Minton Township. He was but one year old when his father bought land in section 15, and began the task of converting tract of timbered land into a fertile farm. His father also ran a saw mill in the early days. It was on this farm that Charles lived until his marriage at the age of 23, when he moved to the farm on which he now lives. At that time it consisted of 120 acres, but subsequent purchases has brought the total acreage up to 480.

Mr. Van Camp was drainage commissioner of the Squaw Creek Drainage District No. 1 in 1905-06, when the big ditch was dug through the bottom lands from northwest of Mound City to Forest City, draining 19,500 acres. His father was one of the prime movers of the enterprise and has been one of the commissioners since.

He is the son of Judge A. W. Van Camp, whose history is recorded elsewhere in this volume.

Charles Van Camp was married in Minton Township, February 6, 1898, to Cora B. Alkire, daughter of William J. Alkire. To them have been born three sons: Roscoe, Arthur W. and

Harry. Mr. Van Camp is a member of the Masonic, Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen of America lodges.

He farms on a large scale, using tractors and other modern machinery. He has always been active in the public affairs of the township.

COLEMAN W. DAVID.

Coleman W. David, undertaker at Craig, has been in that business here for the past twenty-eight years. He is one of the county's enterprising citizens and the son of one of the pioneers who made the early history of Holt County. He was born in what is now Union Township March 3, 1862, and has lived in that township practically ever since.

He is the son of Charles David, a native of Indiana, who came to Holt County in the fall of 1842, when settlers were few and scattered in this part of the country.

Coleman W. David, after receiving his education, or in 1884, took up the carpenter trade in Craig and four years later turned his attention to furniture and undertaking in which he has since been engaged. He is the oldest undertaker, in point of years of service, in the county. To thoroughly fit himself for his profession he has attended lectures and taken training in some of the best schools in the country. He is a graduate of Prof. Williams' School of Science of Embalming, of Kansas City, Kans.

Mr. David has been married twice. The first time to Hattie Pearce, a native of Indiana and the daughter of Joseph and Sarah Pearce. She died June 11, 1910, at the age of 50 years. There were no children of this marriage. He was married the second time to Miss Helen Wellman, who was born in Craig and is the daughter of William Wellman. To them has been born one daughter, Harriett Rebecca, born October 15, 1915.

THOMAS H. HINES.

Thomas H. Hines, who resides on his farm in Liberty Township, has been a resident of Holt County since 1892. He was born in Monroe County, West Virginia, February 29, 1868. He was raised on a farm and attended the public schools. For several years he clerked in a store at Red Sulphur Springs. Coming to Holt County in 1892 he began farming which he followed for several years, when he went into the mercantile business in Bigelow in 1903. The following year he sold out and went to Mound City where he formed a partnership with Charles Smith and Harry Shultz, under the firm name of Hines, Smith & Co.. and engaged in buying horses and mules. Four years later he moved to Liberty Township and has since been farming there.

Six years ago he bought the farm on which he lives, it being known as the Nancy Weston farm.

He is the son of Joseph P. and Lucy (Alderson) Hines, both descendants of old Virginia stock. They are both dead. Thomas Hines was married February 12, 1896, to Mattie Wilson, a native of Benton Township and a daughter of Joseph Wilson, an early settler. They have two children: Harold and Hazel. Mr. Hines is a member of the Yeomen and Woodmen of the World lodges and an active Democrat.

CLAUDE H. DEARMONT.

Claude H. Dearmont, who lives on a splendid eighty-acre farm in section 14, Liberty Township was born in the county and has always made it his home. He was born September 15, 1874, on the farm on which he has since lived with the exception of when he lived on the farm now owned by Robert Russell. This was one of the first settled farms in Liberty Township. It was first owned by Esquire Beecham who settled it in 1854. It came into possession of Peter Dearmont, father of the subject of this sketch in 1871, when the original part of the present residence was built. The south wing was added in 1880.

Claude H. Dearmont was married in the old house on the John Smith farm on the Bluff road north of Mound City, built in 1861, and was a stage house in the days of the mail coach between St. Joseph and Council Bluffs. His marriage took place October 4, 1899, to Vivian Henning, who was born in Madison County, Virginia, and is the daughter of M. F. and Addie Henning. They came to Holt County in 1884. Mr. and Mrs. Dearmont are the parents of four children: Peter, Mary, Edith and Helen.

Mr. Dearmont has served on the board of education of Liberty School District. This district his father helped to organize in 1873, and was a member and clerk of the board for about twenty-six years. He also assisted in the organization of Liberty Township and the Liberty Cemetery association, and was a member of its board until his death. He was succeeded in this office by his son Claude H., who still holds the place. He was one of the organizers of Consolidated School District No. 1 and helped to raise the money to build the high school. He is secretary and treasurer of the building committee. He is a Democrat, member of the Modern Woodmen and Woodmen of the World lodges and his family are members of the Presbyterian church.

LOUIS L. TEARE.

Louis L. Teare is the junior member of the firm of Brown-

field & Teare, dealers in grain and owners of the Craig elevator and part owners of the elevator at Bigelow. They are also owners of the Craig Light & Power Company and the Craig Mill.

Mr. Teare was born on his father's farm, north of the Brodbeck place, near Forest City in December, 1871. The elder Teare bought this farm in 1870, when he moved to Holt County. The family moved to Forest City in 1878, where the subject of this sketch was educated. At the age of 16 years he went to Bigelow to clerk in a store for Judge B. F. Fleming. In 1891 he moved to Craig and identified himself with Frazer & Krusor, dealers in general merchandise. He was appointed postmaster at Craig in 1893 and served four years. He then entered the employ of F. S. Brownfield in the grain business and in 1906 bought a half interest. The same year they bought the electric light plant and flour mill in Craig. Mr. Teare is also the owner of considerable farm land and property in Craig. He is vice-president and a director of the Home Bank at Forest City.

He is the son of Thomas and Matilda (McCrory) Teare, the former a native of the Isle of Man and the latter of Holt County, Missouri. Thomas Teare died at Forest City in 1907. Mrs. Teare is still living in Forest City.

Louis L. Teare was married in Craig, September 21, 1896, to Laura Anibal, who was born near Bigelow, December 13, 1873, and is the daughter of Edmund and Phoebe (Hinkle) Anibal. She died July 19, 1897. To this union a son was born, Louis A., who survived his mother but two months. She was a church worker and teacher in the Sunday school at Craig.

Mr. Teare is a thirty-second degree Mason and a Shriner. He is also an Odd Fellows and has filled all the stations in the lodge at Craig. He is also a Rebekah. He is a Democrat in politics and was a delegate to the national convention at Baltimore which nominated President Wilson. He also was delegate to the Democratic state convention at which former Governor Folk was nominated. Religiously he is a member of the M. E. Church, South, and takes an active interest in the work of that denomination in Craig.

CHARLES McCANDLISH.

Charles McCandlish, of Craig, who has retired after twenty-two years of active business life, is one of the active, enterprising citizens of the county. He quit business in September, 1913, and has since spent his spare time looking after his real estate, which consists of 760 acres of fine farm land.

He was born in Breman, Fairfield County, Ohio, November 17, 1857, and grew to manhood there, being raised on a farm.

He clerked several years in a general merchandise store in Breman, which was started and owned by his grandfather, George McCandlish and later became the property of his sons, for whom the subject of this sketch worked.

In 1881, at the age of 24, he came west and clerked for Smith & Andes in Mound City, until 1885. That year he went to Kansas and entered a claim in Ness County. During that time he also ran a store and was postmaster at a little town called Nonchalanta.

In 1890 he came back to Mound City where he lived a year and then went to Craig, where for two years he was in the lumber business with W. O.. Yous. Then he sold out and engaged in the general merchandise business in which he was uncommonly successful. He retired in 1913, as stated above.

Charles McCandlish is the son of John and Jane (Wilson) McCandlish, natives of Ohio, and was married in Mound City, November 21, 1883, to Miss Gertrude Meek. She was born in Mound City and is the daughter of Dr. Berry Meek, one of the pioneer physicians of Holt County. Mr. and Mrs. McCandlish have one child: Nellie, wife of J. A. Maltby, of Craig. Mr. McCandlish is a member of the Presbyterian church. His political affiliations are with the Democratic party.

GEORGE B. (DICK) GILLIS.

One of the farmers of North Benton Township who does things in a big way is George B. (Dick) Gillis, farmer, raiser and feeder of horses, cattle and hogs. He lives on a splendid farm of 500 acres three miles northwest of Mound City on what in the early days was the stage road between St. Joseph and Council Bluffs. Christian Niederhouser, "Happy Jack" Jackson Henry Walker and William A. Cochran were stage drivers on this road.

George B. Gillis' original farm of 234 acres has been in the Gillis family since the late '60's; he purchased this farm from his great-uncle, Daniel Gillis. Dick, as he is better known, was born on his father's farm in Benton Township, May 2, 1866. He lived with his parents until 20 years old when he took up bachelor's quarters on the 234-acre farm on which he now lives, and which he bought when 18 years of age. He has since added to his landed estate until he now owns 500 acres. He has added many improvements and built a fine home in 1894. There are few men better or more favorably known that "Dick" Gillis. He attended the district school but received the major portion of his education at home under a private tutor.

Mr. Gillis was married in Clay Township to Helen I. Thomp-

son, a daughter of Landon and Jennie (Dysart) Thompson, early Buchanan County settlers. Mr. and Mrs. Gillis are the parents of five children: Emmett T., Landon C., Lloyd F., Ivan R. and Virginia Ruth. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and Woodmen of the World lodges.

The subject of these paragraphs is the son of Edward Gillis, who was born in Scioto County, Ohio, November 23, 1834, and came to Holt County with his parents in October, 1844. After a few years of merchandising in Mound City he engaged in farming and was very successful. He was among the first to introduce blooded live stock in this section, making his initial purchase of Shorthorn cattle in Kentucky in 1872. His landed estate at the time of his death consisted of 1,500 acres.

FRANK W. HARMAN.

Frank W. Harman, druggist, who has been in Mound City since 1884, and in point of continuous years in same business is the oldest merchant in the town. When he first came to Mound City he clerked in Caleb Jesse's drug store for three years and then went into business for himself in the same building in which he is now located. The business was incorporated July 1, 1916, under the name of the Harman Drug Company. Mr. Harman is president and Fred M. Burks, secretary and treasurer. They carry the largest stock of drugs, books, wall paper and paints in the county. Mr. Harman has been very successful in business and is the owner of considerable real estate.

He was born in Des Moines, Iowa, August 10, 1863, and is the son of William and Nancy (Blackburn) Harmon, natives of Pennsylvania and New York. They have three sons and two daughters living: W. H., of Ontario, Calif.; A. J., of Custer, Okla.; Mrs. Ann Foreman, of Custer, Okla.; Mrs. Georgia Olson, of Thomas, Okla., and Frank W., of Mound City.

Mr. Harman is a member of the Knights of Pythias and Woodmen of the World lodges. He was married in Mound City September 28, 1892, to Blanche Wade, of Mound City, Mo. They have one son, Frank W., Jr.

Mr. Harmon is a great lover of out-door sports and spends part of his time in the woods and lake resorts of the north and in California.

ATTIE B. CATON.

Attie Benton Caton, a prosperous farmer of Benton Township, resides on his farm of ninety acres in section 26. He also owns eighty acres in section 34, Benton Township and eighty acres in Saquache County, Colorado. He was born April 4, 1866,

on the northeast quarter of section 22, Benton Township, which was then owned by his father. When a boy 6 years old the family moved to section 26, where Attie Caton has since lived with the exception of a year in Idaho and one in Colorado. This farm has been in the Caton family since 1852, and the present owner is of the third generation to hold it. It was first bought by his grandfather, Christopher P. Caton.

Attie B. Caton attended the public school in the Summit district when a boy. He farmed for his father until he attained his majority, when his father gave him 80 acres, which he farmed while yet living on the old homestead.

He is the son of William F. Caton, a native of Carroll County, Missouri, his parents being of old Missouri stock. W. F. Caton's grandfather was one of the first settlers on the site of the present city of St. Louis. W. F. Caton came to Holt County in 1852 with his parents and is still living in Benton Township at the ripe age of 80 years. He was one of the most successful farmers in the county and at one time owned 800 acres in one tract.

Attie B. Caton was married in Mound City April 4, 1901, to Pearl E. Gillis, who was born in Benton Township, July 15, 1878, and is the daughter of George and Addie C. Gillis, early settlers. Mr. and Mrs. Caton have six children: Coline D.; Thomas B., Fred O., Harold, Marvel D., and Katherine Dale. Mr. Caton is a member of the Woodmen of the World lodge. He has been clerk of the Summitt school district for sixteen years, and also has served as a member of the school board.

GEORGE L. PENNY.

George L. Penny began business in Forest City in 1889 and until three years ago, was one of the active and successful business men of that city. He was during the days of his activity, one of the large grain dealers of Holt County.

Coming to Forest City in 1889, he engaged at once in the grain business and the shipping of apples. For several years his shipments from the Forest City station amounted to 50 to 75 cars each season. When the apple crop was short in Missouri he would buy fruit in Michigan and New York State and ship to the western markets. In one season he, with assistance, shipped from New York points 221 cars of apples for one Sioux City, Ia., firm.

In 1902 Mr. Penny bought an interest in the Forest City mill and elevator in company with other stockholders and has been secretary and treasurer of the company for a number of years. Since 1895 he has been associated in business with A. H. Bailey, and they are still stockholders in the mill and elevator company.

In 1912 the mill was leased and Mr. Penny has since been engaged principally in settling estates. The last estate managed by him was that of George Weber, of Forest City, Mo., amounting to about $80,000.

Mr. Penny is a native of Holt County and was born in Forest Township, March 8, 1860. When a child the family moved to Doniphan County, Kansas, three miles southwest of White Cloud. There he grew to manhood on his father's farm and attended the district school, later taking a course in the Chapman Business College, at St. Joseph. At the age of 25 he went to Livingston, Yellowstone County, Mont., and had charge of a big cattle ranch owned by the Meyer Brothers. In 1889 he moved to Forest City where he has since made his home. He is a lover of the great out doors and takes annual vacations in the mountains and along the streams of Montana after mountain trout.

The subject of these paragraphs is the son of John E. Penny who was born in Missouri in 1833 and came to Holt County in the early days. He married Letitia Pilkington in 1855. His father died in 1883. His mother died in 1896.

George L. Penny is an active Democrat and has done much work for the advancement of the party in Holt County. He has been city councilman and city treasurer of Forest City.

DANIEL BURRIER.

Daniel Burrier is one of the big and prosperous farmers of Lewis Township, and one of the oldest citizens in this part of the county. He lives on his farm of 160 acres in the northeast quarter of section 22; he also owns 160 acres adjoining on the west in section 21.

Daniel Burrier was born on his father's farm in Lewis Township which now adjoins the town of Oregon, April 8, 1847. His father, Andrew Burrier, was one of the earliest settlers in Lewis Township, coming here in 1844. Daniel spent his young life on his father's farm and was educated in the Oregon schools. On July 15, 1863, he enlisted in Company C, 14th Kansas Cavalry and served until August, 1865.

Returning from the service he remained with his father until 21 years old, when he began farming for himself. He rented the farm now owned by his brother Hugh Burrier, where he lived four years and bought a farm in Forbes Township, which he improved and on which he lived several years. Twenty years ago he bought his present fine farm, paying $30 to $50 per acre for land that is now worth $200. He improved the place and made a profitable farm of it. In recent years he has retired from hard

farm work. Much of his land is in grass and he takes pride in the Hereford cattle and hogs he raises each year.

Mr. Burrier was married March 29, 1877, to Miss Lossie C. Martin, who was born in Holt County and is the daughter of Jeptha and Elizabeth Martin, early settlers. To them was born one daugther, Grace, April 9, 1880, and who died January 3, 1891.

Mr. Burrier is a member of the Christian Meyer Post, G. A. R. at Oregon.

JOHN J. JEFFRIES.

John J. Jeffries, agent for the Burlington railroad at Corning, is one of the oldest railroad men in point of years of service on the system. When a boy 17 years old he helped make the survey of the old Kansas City, St. Joseph & Council Bluffs road through Holt County in 1868. Corning of today was then open prairie land, with only a few scattered farms in the vicinity.

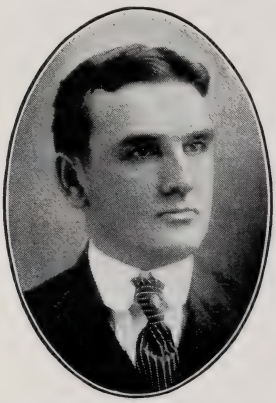
Mr. Jeffries worked under Surveyor Wells, a division engineer. The chief engineer was George H. Nettleton, who was general superintendent of the road after it was built. When the road opened for business young Jeffries was given charge of the hand pump house, just north of Napier. He retained his home in St. Joseph and the following spring, in 1869, he moved to Nodaway, where his father located and ran a store in addition to being postmaster and tie inspector for the railroad company. Here Young Jeffries learned telegraphy.

In the fall of that year he was made agent at Nodaway and remained there until the fall of 1873. He was then transferred to Barnard and had charge of the station there until 1881, when he left the Burlington and went with the Kansas City, Ft. Scott & Gulf at Ottawa, Kans. Later he spent several years in Montana and in 1890 returned to the Burlington, being given charge of the station at Corning.

Mr. Jeffries was born in Nunda, Livingston County, N. Y., March 12, 1852. His parents first moved to Illinois and then to St. Joseph. He is the son of John and Sarah Ann (Milliner) Jeffries, natives of New York state. He was married in Andrew County, Missouri, November 2, 1873, to Miss Hannah Francis Garner, daughter of James Garner, an early settler in Andrew County. They have four children: Pearl, wife of Dr. P. D. Kelly, of Nemaha City, Nebr.; Lulu, wife of Clarence U. Hogrefe, of Winthrop, Ark.; Gertrude, wife of Elmer Thornkill, of Clay Center, Kans.; and John F., agent for the Burlington at Northboro, Iowa.

DANIEL B. KUNKEL.

Daniel B. Kunkel, County Clerk, was born near Oregon December 16, 1878, and has lived here practically all his life. His early years were spent in Kunkeltown, which was the name given the settlement near the Kunkel Mills on Mill Creek, a mile east of Oregon in the days when this industry was one of the most important business enterprises in this part of the county.



DANIEL B. KUNKEL.

At the age of 8 years he moved with his parents to Oregon, where he was educated in the public schools and the Oregon high school. After leaving school he clerked in several stores in Oregon. Then in 1899 he moved with his parents to Craig, where he assisted his father, Daniel Kunkel, in the operation of the Eclipse Roller Mills.

Returning to Oregon in 1900 he associated himself with the Zook & Roecker Bank, where he was employed as bookkeeper for several years, after which he engaged in the insurance business. In 1914 he was elected clerk of the county court, which office he is filling acceptably. He is the son of Daniel Kunkel, whose biography appears elsewhere in this volume.

Mr. Kunkel was married August 19, 1903, to Miss Bessie Louisa Mitchell, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Mitchell, who was born June 4, 1880, in Kirksville, Mo. They have two children: Helen Mitchell and Mary Elizabeth. Mr. Kunkel and family are members of the Presbyterian church. Fraternally he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Modern Woodman of America lodges. Politically he is a Republican.

EARL E. WACHTEL.

Earl E. Wachtel, one of the prosperous farmers of Lewis Township, has been a resident of Holt County for several years. He is farming what is known as the old Fray place, owned by his father-in-law, Hugh Burrier.

Mr. Wachtel was born in Andrew County, Missouri, February 25, 1887, and grew up on his father's farm, and where he attended the public schools. When 16 years old his parents moved to Holt County and began farming in the New Point neighborhood. In 1907, at the age of 20 years, he was married and moved to his present farm.

He is the son of John and Ellen Wachtel, natives of Missouri and Iowa, respectively. Mrs. Wachtel, mother of the subject of this sketch died in Rosendale, Andrew County, in 1913. Mr. Wachtel is still living in Rosendale.

Earl E. Wachtel was married at the home of his father-in-law, September 3, 1907, to Miss Rosa Burrier, who was born on her father's farm in Holt County and is the daughter of Hugh and Barbara Burrier. They have two children, Hugh Daniel and Beauford Bartja.

JAMES R. PEACHER.

James R. Peacher, architect and builder, came to Oregon in 1903. He is the owner of the Hotel Woodland and two store buildings on the east side of the block. The hotel building includes two store rooms.

Mr. Peacher was born in Covington, Ky., March 31, 1842, and resided in that state until 1881. His father was an architect and builder and his son took up that work when a young man and has since followed it with the exception of the last few years, which he has devoted to looking after his property. In 1881 he moved to Carthage, Mo., where he followed his profession and prepared plans for many of the public buildings in that city, Monett, Webb City and Carterville. He prospered there and acquired property around the public square. He lived there until he came to Oregon in 1903.

He is the son of J. C. and Judy (Brant) Peacher, natives of Virginia. He has been twice married. The first time on May 15, 1861, to Francis Kirkley, who died about five years later. Four children were born of this marriage, all of whom are dead. Mr. Peacher was married again to Nellie S. Huey, native of Ohio. She died ten years ago. To this union was born one daughter, Lucile Peacher of New Ulm, Minn.

Mr. Peacher has been born and raised a Methodist. He served in the Confederate army during the Civil war and for a time was with the noted John Morgan.

NATHAN PERRY MOORE.

Nathan Perry Moore of Oregon was born in Cass County, Nebraska, October 5, 1855. In 1865 he came with the family to Holt County and settled on a farm in Lewis Township, south of Oregon. He lived there until 25 years old when he went to Fremont, Nebr., and ran a market garden ten years. Then he moved to Forest City and engaged in the draying business. Later he bought the dray line between Oregon and Forest City and operated it until the railroad was built in 1909. He then engaged

in draying in Oregon and continued this until 1914 when he engaged in the restaurant business on the west side of the square.

Mr. Moore was married in December, 1880, to Flora R. Pierce, who was born in Lewis Township, and is the daughter of Silas Pierce, one of the Holt County pioneers. He is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge in Oregon and a member of the board of trustees.

He is the son of G. W. and Mary J. Moore, natives of Tennessee and Illinois, respectively.

DANIEL ZACHMAN.

Daniel Zachman, president of the Citizens' Bank of Oregon, has been a resident of that town since 1879. He was born in Marion County, Ohio, April 20, 1841. He lived on his father's farm until the outbreak of the Civil war. He enlisted in the 82nd Ohio Infantry September, 1861, when but 20 years of age. He was discharged in August, 1865, having served nearly four years. His regiment was under the command of Col. Cantwell of Canton, O., and served with the army operating in the south. The principal battles in which he participated were Bull Run, Chancelorsville, Gettysburg, Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge and Peach Tree Creek. He marched with Sherman to the sea, from South Carolina to Richmond and on to Washington, where he took part in the grand review. He was one of the lucky soldiers, as he was never wounded. Neither was he ever confined in a guard house or prison.

After the war he returned to his old home and made good to his father the year he spent in the army before he became of age. He then farmed a year on the Sandusky Plains in Ohio and in 1866 came west and settled on an eighty acre farm in Nodaway Township, where he resided until 1879, when he was elected county recorder and moved to Oregon. He served four years and went to California on a sight-seeing trip. In the fall of 1884 he was elected county treasurer and held that office two years. Shortly after the close of the term he organized the Citizens Bank and has since been its president. Mr. Zachman is the son of Francis X. Zachman, a native of Baden, Germany, who came to this country in 1829.

Mr. Zachman was married at Marion, O., March 6, 1866, to Miss Rebecca Anselment, of that city, daughter of Joseph and Annie (Seria) Anselment. They have been the parents of five children, two of whom are living: Solomon O., of Emmett, Idaho, and Flora, wife of Roy C. Kunkel, of Oregon.

Mr. Zachman has been a life long Republican, casting his first vote for Abraham Lincoln. He and his family are mem-

bers of the German Evangelical association. He and his wife celebrated their golden wedding March 6, 1916, at which a large number of their friends were present.

EDWIN ARTHUR WELTY.

Edwin Arthur Welty, capitalist and financial agent of Oregon, was born at Canal Dover, Ohio, December 5, 1953. His father, E. Welty, a native of Ohio, was one of the leading business men of eastern Ohio in that day and his mother, Elizabeth Lehmer Welty was a native of Laurel Hill, Somerset County, Pennsylvania, was a women of superior mental ability, good education and natural literary capacities of no common order. His father dying in 1854 and reverses of fortune following, his widowed mother removed to Holt County, Missouri, in 1856, where the greater part of his life has been spent. He resided in St. Joseph from 1868 to 1873, when he moved to Oregon, and has since that time been actively engaged in the business of broker and dealer in investment securities. He also maintains offices in El Reno and Muskogee, Okla., in which localities he owns considerable real estate. He is also a large holder of farm properties in Holt and adjoining counties. He has by business acumen and keen foresight into values of properties acquired a reputation along these lines equal to any man in the state.

Mr. Welty was educated in the St. Joseph high school, taking the classical courses and was graduated in 1872, delivering the valedictory, the class honor. In 1889 his daughter, Ethel, delivered the valedictory at the same school.

Immediately after his graduation he spent a year in the mountains of Colorado, Utah, New Wexico and among the Indians and border men of that day, and where he gained the familiarity with the scenes his pen in later years so aptly described. He developed into a writer of great ability, and in 1896 published a book of his own productions entitled, "Ballads of the Bivouac and the Border." In speaking of the work William W. West, editor of the Philadelphia Press, says in part: "This great series of ballads opening with 'The Trapper at Bay,' and closing with 'The Huron's Answer,' and a few details of the life of the polished writer and courteous gentleman, whose ready pen and facile brain at less than 25 years of age had made him undeniably the greatest purely ballad writer in America, will be of interest."

Politically Mr. Welty has always been a Republican. He was a delegate to the national convention held in Chicago in 1888 and was an active supporter of James G. Blaine. After the withdrawal of that gentleman from the race Mr. Welty supported Harrison and Morton on the floor of the hall.

Mr. Welty was married in New Philadelphia, Ohio, October 7, 1878, to Bessie M. O'Donnell, a native of that place and the daughter of Daniel and Hannah (Welch) O'Donnell. To this union has been born one daughter, Ethel, wife of Dr. Charles G. Geiger of St. Joseph.

In the early history of the Creek and Seminole nations he became better known than in his home town and his name was a household word in both nations. He is personally known to every Indian and mixed blood and deals extensively in lands and realty. Welty, a town in Okpuskee County, Oklahoma, is named for Mr. Welty of this sketch.

SAMUEL H. SCHULTE.

Samuel H. Schulte is the junior member of the firm of Burrier & Schulte, of Oregon, dealer in hardware and farm machinery. Mr. Schulte is a native of Holt County, born in Oregon, February 15, 1869, and is the son of Henry Schulte, also a native of Holt County, whose father, Herman Schulte, came to Holt County from Germany in the early '40's.

Samuel H. Schulte spent his school days in Oregon and Humboldt, Nebr., to which town the family moved when he was 12 years old. He lived there until 18 years old, when he went to Culbertson, Nebr., and engaged in the hardware business with his uncle, Henry Blum. After living in Culbertson from 1887 to 1893 Mr. Schulte returned to Oregon and bought the interest of Frank Allen in the hardware firm of Schulte & Allen. With his brother Levi he continued in this business until 1909, when they sold to Bragg & Munn.

In 1910 Mr. Schulte went to Anadarko, Okla., where he farmed for three years. He returned to Oregon and bought the seven-acre tract adjoining the town on the east, from the Price estate. This he platted and named Highland Addition. He built two modern houses, in one of which he lives. In July, 1914, he and Andy Burrier bought the stock of the Smith Hardware Company and they have since continued the business successfully. He also owns a half interest in the building in which Schulte & Kunkel are doing business.

Mr. Schulte was married in Oregon to Miss Nannie Hostetter, a daughter of E. P. Hostetter. They have five children: Agnes, Mabel, Auvergna, Katherine and Robert. Mr. Schulte has served as city councilman and is a member of the Modern Woodmen and Fraternal Aid lodges.

LEVI N. SCHULTE.

Levi N. Schulte is the senior member of the firm of Schulte & Kunkel, proprietors of the Variety Store, in Oregon. Mr.

Schulte was born in Oregon, December 7, 1866. In 1876 the family moved to Pawnee City, Nebr., and later to Humboldt, Nebr., where they lived eight years. Then they moved to Jetmore, Kans., where the subject of this sketch lived five years, working at his trade, that of tinner, which he had learned in Humboldt. He next went to Ness County, Kansas, where he preempted a claim and proved up on it two years later. His next move was to Chase County, Nebraska, where he homesteaded a quarter section. After proving up on it at the end of three years he sold out and returned to Oregon, in 1891. He and Charles Edwards bought the tin shop that Henry Dersch had been operating on the same corner on which the Variety store is now located. A couple of years later Frank Allen bought Edwards' interest and a few years later Samuel Schulte bought out Allen and the name of the firm became Schulte Brothers. They continued the business for about fifteen years and sold to Bragg & Munn.

Mr. Schulte then organized the Oregon Pressed Stone Company, his partners being Dr. W. S. Wood and Perry Brooks. He is still interested in this enterprise. He was in active management of the business for three years or until 1910 when he and Gideon Kunkel formed a partnership and opened the Variety Store.

He was married in Oregon, Mo., February 27, 1896, to Miss Annie Seeman, daughter of Fred and Kate Seeman, early residents of Oregon. They have three children: Herman, Florence and Lillian, twins. Mr. Schulte is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge.

JUDGE ARTHUR W. VAN CAMP.

Judge Arthur W. Van Camp is a farmer and merchant of Fortescue. He has been a resident of Holt County since 1875. He first took up his residence at what was then known as Book's Mill, situated on the Big Tarkio, one mile north of the present town of Fortescue. Van Camp worked in the mill for two years. Then he bought 280 acres of land in section 15, five miles southeast of Fortescue. He established a home there and continued to live on this farm until November, 1915, when he moved to Fortescue. He is in the banking and merchandising business there but expects to return to the farm in due time.

The judge has been an active farmer, a hard worker and has been uncommonly successful. He has bought and removed the timber from 1,500 acres of land in Minton Township. He has raised four children and to each of them he has given a farm. His ability as a business man was recognized by the public in 1891 when he was elected county judge from the southern district. He served one term of two years on the county bench.

Judge Van Camp is president of the Bank of Fortescue, of which institution he was one of the promoters. The bank was organized in 1914 and is a successful financial institution. He is also interested with his brother-in-law, S. M. Howard, in the general merchandise store of S. M. Howard & Co. The judge is also a director in the Independent Telephone Company; is justice of the peace; supervisor of Squaw Creek Drainage District No. 2 and a director in the Holt County Mutual Fire and Lightning Insurance Company. He was the first merchant in Minton Township. While engaged at the Book Mill he opened a small store or commissary, where he sold supplies to the workmen and settlers.

Judge Van Camp was born in Erie, Penna., July 25, 1838. He is a graduate of the academy at Girard, Penna. At the age of 23 years he enlisted in Company H, 83rd Pennsylvania Regular Infantry, April 15, 1861. He was discharged in the spring of 1863 at a hospital at Newark, N. J., for disability resulting from wounds received at the battle of Yorktown.

The hardships of war had impaired his health and he went to the Rocky Mountains and spent two years roughing it in the open air. He started east but stopped in St. Joseph and sold goods for two years. While there he bought land along the east shore of Lake Contrary which is now very valuable and which he sold and traded, "for a song." He is the son of Garrett and Julia A. (Saunders) Van Camp, both natives of the state of New York.

Judge Van Camp was married in St. Joseph, Mo., December 7, 1867, to Susan A. Howard, a native of Illinois. They have four children: Mrs. Julia A. Minton, of Fortescue; Charles A., of Minton Township; Mrs. Cora B. Alkire, of Oregon; and Mrs. Lulu Childs, of Minton Township.

COKE W. JACKSON.

Coke W. Jackson is proprietor of the Jackson Lake House, at Big Lake, a fishing resort that is known all over the country. He owns sixty acres of land on the lake on which the resort is located and which he farms. He owns, altogether, 300 acres in the vicinity of the lake.

Mr. Jackson was born in Atchison County, Kansas, February 22, 1861. When 10 years old he moved with his parents to the place on which he now lives. With the exception of two years spent in Rulo, Nebr., in the merchandising business with his brother Dick, he has lived here ever since. Big Lake is one of the beauty spots of northwest Missouri, and in the earlier days teemed with fish and ducks. Recognizing the desirability of this location for a resort Mr. Jackson, about twenty-five years ago,

established this pleasure-place which has since attained a widespread fame.

He is the son of Robert A. Jackson who was born in Pennsylvania in 1818. He came west to Kansas where he lived a few years and then located on the shores of Big Lake. He died there about thirty years ago.

Coke W. Jackson has been twice married. The first time to Ida Iden, who died twenty years ago. Two children were born of this union: Ivy, now Mrs. Frank Vest, and Goldie, now Mrs. George Davis. His second marriage was with Cora Banker, a native of Illinois. To them have been born five children: Robert A., Leta N., Frank, Wilson and Mildred. Mr. Jackson is a member of the Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen and Woodmen of the World lodges.

CHESTER C. CATON.

Chester C. Caton is one of the successful young farmers of North Benton Township. He was born on his father's farm in the same township, December 14, 1880. He grew up on the farm and attended the Summit School. At the age of 25 he was married and began farming on his own account on the farm on which he now lives. It consists of ninety acres and has been greatly improved by the owner.

He is the son of William F. Caton, one of the early settlers and well known citizen of the county. He is now living in Benton Township at the age of 80 years. The senior Caton was born in Monroe County, Missouri, and came to Holt County in 1852. His wife, Ella Porter, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cummings Porter, who came to Holt County in 1850. Cummings Porter settled on the farm now owned by Mrs. Caton's brother, D. C. Porter of Benton Township.

Chester C. Caton was married in Union Township May 16, 1906, to Mabel Nauman, who was born in Craig and is the daughter of J. W. and Mollie Nauman. They have one son living: Thomas E. Caton, born August 1, 1913; David N. was born March 10, 1907, and died February 27, 1908. Mr. Caton is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge at Mound City. He has served the community in the capacity of school director for a good many years.

GEORGE EDWARD ALKIRE.

George Edward Alkire is farming his mother's place of 150 acres in section 21, North Benton Township. He is the son of Henry L. Alkire, deceased, who was a native of St. Charles County, Missouri. He came to Holt County in 1863 and settled

on a farm in Forest Township. Eventually he owned half a section of land which he divided among his children by his first wife. He then bought a quarter section near Oregon, where he lived several years and then moved to 160 acres he bought in Benton Township near the old Mineral Springs. In 1902 he moved to Bigelow Township, but sold out there in 1909 and moved back to Benton Township. He died there January 1, 1911, at the age of 81 years.

George Edward Alkire was married December 22, 1915, to Miss Edna Markt, who was born at Oregon and is the daughter of Charles and Margaret Markt, who were early settlers in Holt County. Mr. Alkire is a member of the Woodmen of the World lodge in Mound City. He was born in Lewis Township November 7, 1893. Moving with his parents to a farm near Mound City, he grew up there and graduated from the Mound City High School in 1912. Afterward he took an academic course in the University of Missouri. He and his brother Lee bought the Claude Clark cafe in Mound City and conducted the business for a year and for nearly a year following he and his brother-in-law, Cliff Dunnigan ran the place. Two years ago he took charge of his mother's farm.

JAMES H. STOKES.

James H. Stokes, attorney at law, in Craig, was born in Union Township, Holt County, April 13, 1871. He has lived in the county ever since, with the exception of three years spent in St. Joseph. His parents moved to Craig when he was one year old. He is the son of John W. Stokes, than whom few men stood higher in the legal profession in northwest Missouri.

James H. Stokes was educated in the Craig schools and the Maryville seminary; he also took a business course in Bryants Commercial College in St. Joseph. He read law with his father and in the office of Judge Henry S. Kelley of St. Joseph. He was admitted to the bar in Holt County April 30, 1896, under Judge C. A. Anthony. He then associated himself with his father in the practice of his profession.

Mr. Stokes was married March 14, 1897, to Miss Hattie Puttroff, who was born in Hamburg, Iowa, and the daughter of Russell and Mary (Wagoner) Puttroff. To this union has been born eight children, one of whom, Katherine Elizabeth, is dead. Those living are: John Wesley, Vinceinnes James, Victor Dean, Lyford Russell, Albert Burr, Sarah Helen and Francis Dungan. Mr. Stokes' lodge affiliations are with the Modern Woodmen of America.

WILLIAM H. CALVERT.

William H. Calvert, auctioneer and proprietor of the poultry, egg and feed business in Craig, has been a resident of the

town for about a year, but in that time has established himself solidly in the business of the town. He owns property in Craig and is one of its most substantial citizens. He was born in Pettis County, Missouri, near Green Ridge, May 7, 1872, and with the exception of eight years lived there until coming to Holt County. He lived thirty years on his father's farm, buying the place in 1907. In 1912 he sold the farm and for eighteen months engaged in the general merchandising business in Clarksburg, Mo. In 1906 he took up auctioneering and that year graduated from the Missouri Auction School, then located in Trenton. Leaving Clarksburg he moved to Bates County where he bought a farm. His next move was to Craig.

He is the son of James M. Calvert, born in 1844 in Cole County, Missouri, now living with his son in Craig. James Calvert's wife was Nannie E. Botts, born in Pettis County, Missouri, in 1843 and died in 1901.

William H. Calvert was married June 6, 1908, to Miss Millie E. Sharp, of Highland, Kans. They have four children: Floyd O., James L. and John M. (twins) and Harold E. He is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge.

Mr. Calvert devotes much of his time to auctioneering and is making a pronounced success of his chosen vocation.

HOWARD W. MILLS.

One of the leading newspapers in northwest Missouri is the Mound City News-Jeffersonian, which has been under the management and editorial control of Howard W. Mills for the past five years. Mr. Mills is a thorough newspaper man, has been in the business since leaving college, and has the training, the inclination and the natural ability which are required for successful work in this field.

Howard W. Mills was born on a farm near Isadora, in Worth County, Missouri, August 22, 1878. He has the interesting genealogy connecting him with an old American family, whose members were identified as soldiers with the early Indian wars, and later in the War of 1812 and the Civil war.

David Mills, father of Howard W. was born in Warren County, Ohio, September 27, 1829, and on January 1, 1852, married Margaret Wells. She was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania, February 5, 1832, a daughter of Jonathan R. Wells, who was of Welsh descent and a harness maker by trade. For nearly twenty years David Mills and wife lived in Jay County, Indiana, and then, with wagon and team made the journey to Worth County, Missouri, in 1871, and lived on a farm in that county until the death of David Mills in May, 1898. His widow

is now living with her son, Dr. O. P. M. Mills at Grant City, Worth County.

Howard W. Mills had his first schooling in the Pleasant Hill District school near his home farm in Worth County, and afterwards attended and graduated from the Grant City High School, and in 1901 finished his course in the Maryville Seminary. In his early experience should be included one year of teaching the home school, and a fact of interest is that his father and five of the sons taught in that school house at different times in their lives. Howard Mills taught the grandchildren of some of those who had attended the school when it was taught by his father.

In 1901 Mr. Mills became local editor of the Grant City Star, and since that time there has been no important interruption in his newspaper career. In 1902 he bought a small newspaper, The Advance, at Sheridan, Mo., and owned it for almost six years. For three years of that time he served as postmaster at Sheridan. In the spring of 1908 he sold The Advance, and in August of the same year resigned his postmastership. Then followed a brief experience as an employee of the Iowa Homestead at Des Moines, Iowa, but he was soon lead back into active newspaper work in Missouri, resigned his position with the Des Moines Company and bought the plant and business of the Mound City News at Mound City, in Holt County, on August 1, 1909. Since then he has succeeded in building up one of the best equipped and most influential papers in northwest Missouri. In February, 1914, he bought the Mound City Jeffersonian, his competitor at Mound City, and the consolidation gave the present title, Mound City News-Jeffersonian. This paper enjoys a circulation over every district of Holt County, and in adjoining counties, and is issued with from eight to twelve pages, all home print. The office has a very complete equipment throughout, including a standard linotype typesetting machine.

Mr. Mills has always been a Republican in politics. In the educational matters of his community he has always taken a lively interest, and for five years served on the board of education of Mound City schools. He is a member of the official board of the Methodist church of Mound City, and holds membership in the Masonic and Knights of Pythias lodges of that city.

At Sheridan in Worth County, August 20, 1906, Mr. Mills married Miss Laura LaMar. She is a daughter of Conrad R. and Cynthia A. (Wright) Lamar. Her father was a prosperous business man, for several years was a farmer and later in the lumber business at Sheridan, and retired from activity before his death in 1905.

Mr. and Mrs. Mills are the parents of five children: Irene, born at Sheridan, Mo., April 18, 1908; Dorothy Grace, born at

Mound City, Mo., July 16, 1912; Ruth LaMar, born at Mound City, Mo., April 22, 1914; and twin sons, Carl Austin and Harold Earl, born at Mound City, Mo., June 13, 1916.

EDWIN G. COX.

Edwin G. Cox, proprietor of a drug store in Craig and secretary of the State Board of Pharmacy has been a resident of Craig since 1894. He was born in Weston, Platte County, Mo., May 11, 1866. At the age of 13 years he began his collegiate education, working during the summer months and attending school during the winter. He first attended Gaylord Institute at Platte City, Mo., then to the Agricultural and Mechanical College at Lexington, Ky., then the LaGrange, Mo., college. He then went to the Boston University, taking a classical course. He next went to the Chicago Medical College, taking chemistry principally.

When a young man he clerked in a drug store in Kansas City and for three and one-half years he was in St. Joseph where he clerked for a time and later engaged in business with Robert and Benjamin Frazer, having charge of the store. In 1894 the stock was moved to Craig and Mr. Cox accompanied it and after a time purchased the interests of his partners.

He was appointed by Governor Major to membership on the State Board of Pharmacy, for a term of four years. The following year he was elected secretary of the board.

Mr. Cox is the son of W. G. and Sarah A. (Stone) Cox, natives of Kentucky and members of one of the most prominent families in that commonwealth. They moved to Platte County before the Civil war.

E. G. Cox was married at Liberty, Mo., October, 1892, to Miss Janie Black, daughter of Samuel Black, and born at Cameron, Mo. He is a K. of P. and an Elk. Religiously he is a Presbyterian and politically is a staunch Democrat.

OLIVER M. COLE.

Oliver M. Cole, until April, 1916, was engineer of the Oregon municipal light and water plant at Forest City. He is now the constructing engineer of the St. Joseph Transmission Company, a company organized at Oregon by M. R. Martin, D. M. Martin, Emil Martin, W. H. Richards, George Lehmer and Jonas Whitmer of Oregon, and W. E. Richardson, D. C. Stallard and H. L. Alkire of Forest City, to transmit electric current from St. Joseph to the several towns in Northwest Missouri.

Mr. Cole was born in Fillmore, Andrew County, Missouri, November 28, 1875. He lived there until 16 years old, when he

moved to St. Joseph, where he learned the trade of harness maker. He worked four years at his trade in Forest City and then moved to Oregon and engaged in the telephone business with the Oregon & Forest City Telephone Company. After twelve years of service there he moved to Forest City April 1, 1912, to take charge of the mechanical plant which supplies Oregon and Forest City with electric light and water. He is a self-made man and as he expressed it has hammered out his career himself.

Mr. Cole was married in Oregon February 12, 1899, to Daisy L. Vogan, a native of that town. They have eight children: Alvin, Jesse, Walker, William, Leveta and Lorene, Alice and Averil. Mr. Cole is a stockholder in the St. Joseph Transmission Company of which he is constructing engineer and superintendent of maintenance.

RUDOLPH F. BUCK.

Rudolph F. Buck, cashier of the Bank of Corning, has been a resident of Holt County all his life. He was born in Union Township November 4, 1879, on his father's farm in section 29. There he grew to manhood. His early education was in the public schools and he later was graduated from the Central Business College at Sedalia, Mo.

He remained on his father's farm until married, at which time he began farming for himself until 1905, when he moved to Corning and entered the Peoples' Bank. He remained with that institution eighteen months. Then, in connection with a number of other business men, organized the Bank of Corning, and has since been its cashier. He is also vice-president of the Fairfax Telephone Company in which company he is a stockholder.

The father of the subject of this sketch was John A. Buck, a native of Hanover, Germany, who came to America in 1865, who spent the first few years of his residence in this country in the vicinity of Hemme's Landing. Later he bought a farm near Corning where he has since lived.

Rudolph Buck was married June 27, 1904, to Miss Rose Bowers, who was born in Atchison County and is the daughter of Benjamin Bowers. Mr. and Mrs. Buck have one daughter, Colean, born March 22, 1906. He is a member of the German Lutheran church.

FRED W. BEAVERS.

Fred W. Beavers was born in Coles County, Illinois, November 15, 1877, and received his education from the Arcola, Ill., high school, and learned the printer's trade on the St. Joseph,

Ill., Record. He came to Missouri in January, 1903, taking charge of the Mendon, Mo., Citizen and continued that publication until July, 1914, when he sold out.

On June 15, 1904, he was married to Miss Bertha Williams, of Bethany, Mo., who was employed at the time as type setter on The Citizen. He has been connected with several papers in Northwest Missouri, and has been for the past seven years editor and publisher of the Forest City News, at Forest City, Mo.

CHRIS J. FUHRMAN.

Chris J. Fuhrman, for several years superintendent of the County Farm, near Oregon, has been a resident of Holt County forty-eight years. He was born in Adams County, Indiana, May 14, 1859. The family moved to Holt County when he was 11 years old, and settled four miles northeast of Oregon. There Chris grew up and when he had reached the proper age bought a farm in Liberty Township, where he lived seventeen years. Then he moved to Oregon and was in the wagon, buggy and harness business for about twelve years. He was appointed superintendent of the County Farm in 1913 and served until January, 1917. He owns a farm in Benton Township and 240 acres in Sherman County, Kansas, besides a business house and residence in Oregon.

He is the son of Christian Fuhrman, a native of Wiltenberg, Germany, who came to America when a lad and settled in Indiana, where his parents bought land and lived and died. Christian Fuhrman, the elder, came to Holt County in 1868.

Chis J. Fuhrman was married in Oregon, November 19, 1885, to Anna Gernhart, who was born in Ohio, and the daughter of Martin and Elizabeth Gernhart, natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Fuhrman are the parents of one child, Myrtle, who married Coleman Hamm of St. Joseph. They have an adopted son, Otto, who is living in Wyoming. The family are members of the Evangelical Association.

Myrtle, wife of Coleman Hamm, died October 9, 1916, leaving two children, both girls: Mary Elizabeth, aged 18 months and Doris Colen, who was 16 days old at the time of the death of their mother. Both children make their home with Mr. and Mrs. Fuhrman.

DR. O. W. NAUMAN.

Dr. O. W. Nauman of Craig is a graduate of the Northwestern Medical College of Chicago, being a member of the class of 1903. Then for a year he was interne at Wesley Hospital. He was engaged in the general practice of his profession five years before coming to Craig in 1909. He is the son of J. R.

Nauman, of Virginia, who came to Holt County a poor man in 1878 and settled in the New Liberty neighborhood where his initial investment in Holt County land was made. He made numerous additions to his real estate holdings and at the time of his death in November, 1911, owned about one thousand acres. A few years before his death he built a fine home in Union Township, near Craig.

After receiving an early education in the Lonesome school district the subject of this sketch attended the Missouri Valley College at Marshall, Mo., graduating in 1909. Then he decided to become a doctor and matriculated in the Northwestern Medical College in Chicago. He graduated in 1903 and during his junior year was assistant house physician in The Congress Hotel, Chicago.

The doctor was married June 20, 1911, at Pittsburg, Pa., to Fannie Warner. She was born and reared in Chicago and is the daughter of Henry and Ellen I. (Stark) Warner. Mr. Warner was one of the earliest packers of Chicago.

Dr. and Mrs. Nauman have one son, Russell Warner, born January 17, 1913. The doctor is a member of the Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen lodges and of the Holt County, Missouri State and American Medical associations.

Dr. Nauman is now establishing a herd of high class Shorthorns on his farm near Craig.

WILLIAM W. RAYBURN.

William W. Rayburn, for twenty years a resident of Holt County, is one of the men who have made farming a decided success. Six years ago he bought and moved to the old Harvest Home property adjoining Mound City on the southeast. He is still engaged in farming, but on a smaller scale than formerly, he having retired from active work when he sold his farm and moved to his present home.

Mr. Rayburn was born in Mason County, West Virginia, January 18, 1866. He remained in that county until 30 years old, making his father's farm his home. He attended the county schools and attended West Columbia college one term. When 15 years old he began handling stock horses, a business he continued while in West Virginia. When 30 years old he was married and moved to Holt County, taking up his residence on 120 acres in Hickory Township, five miles southeast of Mound City. It was virgin land when he took possession of it but in five years he had so improved the place that it was considered one of the best farms in that vicinity.

The subject of this sketch is the son of Maxwell and Mary J. (Windon) Rayburn ,both natives of West Virginia.

They were the parents of seven children, five who are still living in West Virginia: William W. and Charles, being prosperous farmers of Hickory Township, Holt County.

William W. Rayburn was married in Holt County December 10, 1895, to Emma Meyer, born in the county and a daughter of Andrew Meyer, one of the pioneers. William W. Rayburn is still a breeder of the Duroc Jersey hog.

STERLING PERKINS.

Sterling Perkins is the son of James D. Perkins, a native of Virginia who came to Holt County in the early '60's and located on a farm two and one-half miles north of Oregon, paying $1.25 an acre for his land. He prospered and at one time owned 2,600 acres of farm land in Holt County, and was considered one of the richest men in the county.

He went to the Black Hills in the '70's and lived there seventeen years. When he returned he located with his brothers, Thomas and Charles Perkins. When he went to the Black Hills the senior Perkins took twenty-seven mule teams and wagons of provisions to sell to the Indians. He also took a railroad contract. On the two propositions he lost much of his wealth. He married Lutitia Susan Henning, who had previously been married to J. W. Cannon. Mr. and Mrs. Perkins had two children: Sterling P. and Maggie, wife of Rev. Clyde Darsie, of Mt. Sterling, Ky.

Sterling P. Perkins was born two miles north of Oregon July 8, 1871. When a boy of 13 years he started out for himself and earned his own way in the world. Twelve years ago he started farming and a year ago sold considerable real estate which he had accumulated and moved to McAllen, Texas, where he has a fine ranch. In his younger days he wa sin the hotel, livery, grocery and butcher business at different times. He also operated a freight and dray line in Oregon. He started the first ice business in the town and was the first to make regular deliveries of ice to the retail trade there.

Mr. Perkins was married in Oregon, January 20, 1899, to Miss Belle Hester Fimple, who was born six miles south of Oregon. They have five children: Cecil, who married Ada Fields of Forbes; Armoline, Phyon, Glenn and Lennie.

HERBERT L. EVERSON.

Herbert L. Everson is manager, stockholder and director of the Forest City Milling and Elevator company's plant. This plant is one of the largest of the kind in northwest Missouri. The original mill and elevator building was erected in 18... The

present officers of the company are: A. H. Bailey, president; W. E. Richardson, vice-president; George L. Penny, secretary-treasurer; H. L. Everson, manager.

Mr. Everson was born in Forest City, November 27, 1871, and has since made that town his home. When a young man he engaged in the manufacture of excelsior, in which business he was engaged for five years. Then he served four years as postmaster, during the McKinley administration. At the expiration of his term he became a stockholder and director in the Forest City Milling and Elevator company, having charge of the shipping and was second miller for two years. He then went into the Bank of Forest City as cashier, which position he held for nine years. In 1913 he returned to the mill and has since been manager of that institution.

He is the son of Nathaniel P. and Phoebe E. Everson, natives of Ohio. The elder Everson came to Forest City in 1866, returned to Ohio after two years, married, and soon after again made Forest City his home. Mr. Everson was a railroad man and followed that line of work until fifteen years ago when he retired. He and his wife are still living in Forest City, there ages being 74 and 69 years, respectively.

Herbert L. Everson was married in Forest City June 9, 1897, to Miss Nellie Wylie, a native of the same town and the daughter of Charles and Ellen Wylie, natives of New York. They came to Missouri before the Civil war, traveling by steamboat to Iowa Point and completing the journey from there in a row boat. Mr. and Mrs. Everson have one son, Clayton Wylie, a high school student.

Mr. Everson is a thirty-second degree Mason and a Shriner. He also operates two farms, one of 159 and the other of 142 acres. He owns a nice home in Forest City and other town property.

FRANK C. COOK.

Frank C. Cook, proprietor of the auto livery at Forest City, has lived in Holt County practically all his life. He was born in Lewis Township December 29, 1886, and is the son of N. H. Cook, postmaster at Forest City.

Frank C. Cook moved with his parents to Forest City when he was about one year old, and after a residence of a few months here moved to Fullersburg, Ill., where the family lived for two years. They then returned to Forest City which has since been Mr. Cook's home, with the exception of a few months spent in California on account of his health.

He was educated in the Forest City schools and worked for

his father who ran the dray and transfer line in the town until 1911 when he bought out his father and ran the business for about a year and a half. When he returned from California he was night engineer at the ice plant for a year. In 1914 he bought a farm in Forest Township which he sold at the end of a year and engaged in the auto livery business in Forest City.

Mr. Cook was married in Forest City September 22, 1909, to Miss Louisa Holtgreve, a native of Oregon, the daughter of G. H. Moltgreve. They are the parents of five children: Leona L., Grace L., Wilda B., Laura L. and Nelson H. He is a member of the Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen of America lodges. He is the youngest member in the county who has been through all of the chairs in Odd Fellowship and is Past Noble Grand of that order. He joined the order in 1909 and has made wonderful progress in its work. Mr. Cook is living in a comfortable residence he built in 1916 at the north end of Main street.

ANSON B. CASS.

Anson B. Cass, dealer in real estate and insurance and loan agent, is one of the early settlers of Forest City. He was born there August 16, 1871, and has lived in Holt County ever since. He was educated in the schools of Forest City and in the Stanberry Normal School where he took a commercial course.

When a young man Mr. Cass began working in his father's machine shop in Forest City and later learned the trade of blacksmith, which vocation he followed for about twelve years. Then he farmed for eleven years in Lewis Township. He then located again in Forest City and has since been in the real estate business.

He is the son of Martin Van Buren Cass, a native of Branch County, Michigan, who was born March 13, 1837, and came to Forest City in July, 1868, at the time when the town was in its flower. He established himself in the blacksmith trade and conducted a successful business for many years. He retired several years ago. He is still living in Forest City.

Anson B. Cass was married October 9, 1895, to Miss Druie Miller, of Lewis Township, daughter of Thomas and Amelia Miller, who were married in Canada and came to Holt County in 1857. Mr. Miller was one of the noted school teachers of the county during the Civil war. During his school days he drilled a company of soldiers before the Duke of Wellington, being well versed in military tactics.

Mr. and Mrs. Cass have seven children: Lillian, wife of Samuel Schaeffer, born March 29, 1897; Ethel, born October 18, 1900; Charles, born December 18, 1904; Nelson, born March 25,

1907; Clyde, born January 16, 1909; Roy, born September 7, 1911; Francis, born July 8, 1915. A year ago Mr. Cass bought a small farm a half mile east of Forest City where he now resides.

DR. J. C. OTTMAN.

Dr. J. C. Ottman has been a practicing physician in Craig for five years. He was born in Fairfax, Mo., March 11, 1886, where he grew up and received his early education. After graduating from the Fairfax high school he began the study of medicine in the Kansas City Medical College and graduated in 1910. He practiced in Kansas City one year before locating in Craig. His office is in the second floor of the Cox building.

Dr. Ottman was married October 16, 1910, to Miss Margaret Brooks of Holt, Clay County, Missouri. They have two children: Vernon Brooks and J. C., Jr. The doctor is a member of the Odd Fellows, Masonic and Modern Woodmen lodges. He is examining physician in Craig for the Woodmen, K. & L. of S. and R. N. of A. He also is a member of the Holt County and Missouri State Medical Societies, and the city board of health.

He is the son of E. R. and Mary (Kemerling) Ottman, natives of Illinois and Michigan, respectively. The senior Ottman died in 1903; his wife is living in Fairfax.

JAMES A. FOSTER.

James A. Foster, owner of what is known as the James Brown farm of thirty-seven acres, in Lewis Township, north of Oregon, has been a resident of this township for thirty years, except six years from 1909 to July, 1915, when he lived in St. Joseph. Before going to St. Joseph he lived on a farm of 140 acres near Curzon, south of Forest City, which he still owns. When he returned from St. Joseph he bought the farm on which he now lives, paying $250 per acre, considered the highest price ever paid for farm land in the county. But it is an ideal little farm and is considered worth the money.

Mr. Foster was born in Crawford County, Illinois, November 8, 1872, and when a boy moved with his parents to Great Bend, Kans., where he lived eight years, when he returned to Holt County, and, when grown, bought the farm near Curzon. During the time he lived in St. Joseph he ran a dairy for three years.

He is the son of William B. and Sarah (Hollowell) Foster, natives of Ohio and Illinois, respectively.

Mr. Foster was married on the farm he owns near Curzon, then the property of his father-in-law, John R. Elder, to Carrie

B. Elder, August 11, 1899. Mrs. Foster was born near Curzon in Lewis Township. They have two children: Fay and Max D. The family are members of the Christian church.

WILLIAM F. BRAGG.

William F. Bragg is the junior member of the firm of Keeves & Bragg, proprietors of an automobile garage and repair shop in Oregon. They are also automobile dealers and handle the Ford, Reo and Grant cars. Storage and auto livery is another feature of their business. The firm is the successor of J. H. Keeves & Co., Mr. Bragg entering the business in September, 1914.

Mr. Bragg was born in Holt County on a farm in Hickory Township six miles northeast of Oregon, October 5, 1877, and attended the country schools until old enough to enter college at Tarkio, from which school he was graduated in 1896. He lived on a farm until 1906, when he moved to Oregon and engaged in the hardware business with C. E. Munn, under the firm name of Bragg & Munn. He next engaged in the automobile business as before stated.

He is the son of William T. and Emma (Walker) Bragg. William T. Bragg was born in Kentucky and came to Holt County in 1844, when but a few months old. His father, Thomas S. Bragg, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was one of the men who did valiant work in the development of the country in the vicinity of New Point, where he established himself on one of the best farms in Holt County. William T. Bragg died in 1891, at the age of 47.

To Mr. and Mrs. Bragg have been born seven children: Strother, Rebecca, Grace, Lucy, Nellie, Alberta and Zinna.

William F. Bragg was married April 15, 1901, to Miss Flora Watson, who was born in Holt County and is the daughter of George and Nanie (Mahon) Watson. They have one son, Paul W. Mr. Bragg is a member of the Masonic blue lodge and Scottish Rite lodge, the Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen.

DR. JONAS C. WHITMER.

Dr. Jonas C. Whitmer, dentist, of Oregon, was born in his home town March 26, 1878, and has always lived here, with the exception of the time he spent in school elsewhere. He graduated from the Oregon high school in the class of 1896 and from the Western Dental College of Kansas City, Mo., in 1899. In October of that year he opened an office in Oregon and has built up a very satisfactory practice.

The doctor is the son of Samuel H. Whitmer, who was born

in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in 1832, and moved to Ohio, when a young man. There he was married and began his life work. He was imbued with the popular idea in those days that there were greater opportunities further west. So he came to Oregon in 1865 and resided here until his death in February, 1904. For many years he operated the sorghum factory in the northern part of the town, which is mentioned in the historical portion of this volume. His wife was Maria Searer, who was born in Juniata County, Pennsylvania in 1833. She is still living in Oregon. To this union was born one son, the subject of this sketch. Mr. Whitmer had four childre by a former marriage: Dr. A. H. Whitmer, a dentist who died in El Paso, Texas, and E. H. Whitmer of Portland, Ore., and two daughters who died in infancy.

Dr. J. C. Whitmer was married June 20, 1913, to Miss Helen E. Frodsham of Savannah, Mo., the daughter of Charles and Agnes (Lehmer) Frodsham. Dr. Whitmer is a member of the M. E. church and the Odd Fellows and Masonic lodges.

SEBOURN CARSON.

Sebourn Carson, County Treasurer, is a native of Holt County, having been born on a farm six miles east of Oregon, in Nodaway Township, January 5, 1868. He is the son of Abner J. and Margaret (Deffenbaugh) Carson, natives of North Carolina and Indiana, respectively. They are the parents of four children: William, of Fairfax, Mo.; Ida, wife of George Prussman, of Pawnee City, Nebr.; Mattie, wife of Mortimer Housman, of near Oregon; and Sebourn Carson.

The subject of this sketch has lived in the county continuously since his birth. He was educated in the country schools and finished at Park College. He farmed until 1903, when he was made superintendent of the County Farm, a position he held until the fall of 1912, when he was elected to the office of County Treasurer, which office he still holds. He resides on a fine little fruit farm one mile northwest of Oregon, on which he recently built a modern home.

Mr. Carson was married June 6, 1898, to Miss Esther Ann Marriner, a native of Sullivan County, Illinois. He is a member of the Odd Fellows and Masonic lodges in which he takes a live interest.

CHARLES PATTERSON.

Charles Patterson is a native of Holt County, being born Novemebr 13, 1873, on the farm which his father homesteaded in 1843, in Lewis Township, where he resided with his parents until 21 years of age. At that age he began farming for himself

on land that he owned near Forbes. In 1907 he bought the 130-acre farm on which he now lives in Lewis Township, adjoining the town of Oregon.

He is the son of Robert Patterson, a native of Dennygall, Ireland. He came to the United States when about 16 years old and farmed in California prior to moving to Holt County in 1843. He was a prominent farmer and citizen and was the owner of about 1,600 acres of Holt County land. He died April 27, 1906, at the age of 76 years. His wife was Tabitha Jane (Kinder) Patterson, who was born in Louisville, Ky., January 9, 1835 and died December 28, 1907, at the age of 72 years. They were the parents of ten children: Kittie, who died in infancy and Alice, wife of Louis Poynter, also dead. Those living are: James, of Holt County; Bailey, of Andrew County; Robert, of Port Arthur, Tex.; John and George, of Holt County; Anna, wife of Charles Meyer of Holt County and William and Charles, of Oregon.

The subject of this sketch was married November 12, 1894, to Miss Stella Huiatt, a native of Holt County and the daughter of Judge Daniel and Martha (Ashworth) Huiatt. They have three children: Jaunita, born September 29, 1896; William Perry Henry, born September 28, 1901; and Alberta, born November 7, 1910.

DR. ELMER F. KEARNEY.

Dr. Elmer F. Kearney, practicing physician of Oregon, is a native of Holt County, his birthplace being New Point and the date April 22, 1880. He is the son of Dr. John R. Kearney who was considered in his day one of the strongest men in his profession in Holt County, locating at New Point, where he practiced his profession for about fifteen years, when he moved to Oregon, where he was located until his death in 1902. The mother of the subject of this sketch was, before her marriage to Dr. Kearney, Miss Lida Bloomer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Allen T. Bloomer of Hickory Township, Holt County.

Dr. Elmer F. Kearney grew to manhood at and near New Point. His mother died when he was quite young and he went to live with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Bloomer. He was educated in the public schools of the county. His professional education was received in Barnes Medical College of St. Louis, Mo., where he was graduated in 1906. After serving an interneship in the Centenary hospital in St. Louis, he returned to his home in New Point and practiced his profession there until 1913. In the fall of that year he located in St. Joseph, where he practiced until July, 1915. Being desirous of again locating in his native county he moved to Oregon, where he has a model office and enjoys a remunerative practice.

Dr. Kearney was married January 16, 1908, to Miss Mabel Moore, of St. Louis. Fraternally he is both a Mason and an Odd Fellow. He is a member of the Holt County Medical Society, the Missouri State Medical Society, the American Medical Association and the Medical Society of the Missouri Valley.

THOMAS E. WILSON.

Thomas E. Wilson of Oregon, is a native of Holt County. He was born near Bigelow March 7, 1889, and is the son of J. H. Wilson, now a resident of Forest City, where he has been justice of the peace for a number of years.

The senior Mr. Wilson was born in Holt County in 1857 and is the son of Daniel Wilson who came to the county during the early days when none but pioneers lived here. He married Ada Miller, also a native of Holt County. To them have been born four children: Mrs. Lulu Black, of Great Falls, Mont.; Mrs. Jesse Cain, of Holt County, and John H., Jr., and Thomas E. Wilson., of Oregon.

The subject of this sketch was educated in the Oakland district school. He went to work when a lad in the blacksmith shop of Van Buren Cass of Forest City. Then he spent two years in the west and in 1908 moved to Oregon. For two years he was engaged in blacksmithing, being the sole proprietor of the shop. Then he formed a partnership with his brother under the name of Wilson Brothers and built the shop in which they are now doing business.

Mr. Wilson was married April 6, 1910, to Miss Jessie Michael, who was born in Holt County and is the daughter of Casper and Caroline (Shoerling) Michael, who came to this country from Indiana. They have two children: Coye M., age 5 years and Cleo, age 1 year.

John H. Wilson was married April 15, 1915, to Miss Winnie Brodbeck. They have one child: George H., born April 17, 1915. Mr. Wilson is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge.

DANIEL M. MARTIN.

Daniel M. Martin, for many years identified with the business life of Oregon, was born in Muncie, Ind., September 15, 1852. In 1857 the family moved to Iowa, where his father preempted a farm five miles west of Clarinda, where he lived until 1865. In that year he came with his parents to Holt County and settled on a farm in Lewis Township.

In 1871 Mr. Martin came to Oregon and worked in a drug store for two years. In 1873 he engaged in business for himself, opening a harness shop on the north side of the square. In 1881

he bought the building in which he is now doing business. He has been at this location ever since, with the exception of ten years, 1903 to 1913, when he retired from business. He sold the first buggies used in Holt County.

He is the son of Joseph Martin who was born in Halifax, Novia Scotia, and came to the United States when a young man and settled in Ohio. There he was engaged in the grain and drug business. He died in Oregon in his 83rd year. His wife, before her marriage, was Clarinda Northway. She was a descendant of an old Scotch family named Rice of Devonshire, England, whose geneology dating back to 1614 is in the possession of Mr. Martin. She died in 1878 at the age of 68 years.

D. M. Martin was married in Jonesboro, Ind., February 14, 1876, to Emily J. Wilson, a native of Elizabethtown, Ind., a town named for her grandfather. She was an orphan and came to Holt County with her grandparents, but returned to Indiana a short time before her marriage. They have two sons: Morton R., and Emil W. One daughter, Odessie, died in infancy.

Mr. Martin has held many city offices and positions of trust. He has helped in the promotion of many public enterprises and has been one of the town's best boosters. He was City Treasurer at the time Oregon voted bonds in the sum of $35,000 for water works.

When Mr. Martin went into business in Oregon in 1873 he borrowed $65 and, as he says, "paid every cent of it back." He is one of the wealthy men of the town and has done much in the way of improving his property and making Oregon a model city. He built the first telephone line between Oregon and Forest City that was used for commercial purposes. This was at a time when telephones were a luxury and when the Bell people owned all the patents on telephone instruments. Mr. Martin leased two instruments from the company for $70 a year and was thereby enabled to put this initial telephone plant into operation. His son, M. R. Martin, is taking over many of his business affairs.

FRANK MORGAN.

Frank Morgan is the senior partner in the Auto Sales Company of Oregon. The company was organized in June, 1914, by Mr. Morgan and Mercer T. Hinde and besides selling several well known makes of automobiles, does a general repair and garage business.

Mr. Morgan was born on Squaw Creek, near the Squaw Creek school house, December 25, 1877. When a child he moved with his parents to Kansas and lived there two years. Then they came back to Holt County and settled in Nodaway Town-

ship, where they lived until 1899, when they moved to Lewis Township, where they bought a farm and lived until 1911, when they moved to Oregon.

Mr. Morgan was married February 14, 1900, to Emma Young, a native of Nodaway Township and the daughter of H. B. and Margaret Young, early Nodaway Township settlers. The subject of this sketch is the son of B. F. Morgan, a native of Arkansas who came to Holt County at an early day and for several years was a druggist in Oregon. Later he engaged in farming. He is now living a life of retirement in Oregon. His wife was before her marriage, Mary Helen Russell. They are the parents of seven sons, five of whom are living: Richard D., of Garden City, Mo.; Frank, subject of these paragraphs; Fred, of Oregon; Roy D., a veterinary surgeon of Skidmore, Mo., and Samuel S., a veterinarian at Richmond, Mo.

B. F. Morgan served in the Union army during the Civil war. He first enlisted in Company G., 16th Indiana Infantry and served about nine months, when he was wounded January 11, 1863 at Arkansas Post. After his recovery he was transferred to Company D, 5th Indiana Regulars and was stationed at Indianapolis, Ind., to guard and transfer prisoners.

GIDEON KUNKEL.

Gideon Kunkel is the junior member of the firm of Schulte & Kunkel, proprietors of the Variety Store in Oregon.

Mr. Kunkel is the son of John E. Kunkel, one of the pioneer settlers who came from Ohio with his parents and settled in Lewis Township in 1847. He bought a farm near the old Kunkel Mills on Mill Creek, established by his father, and operated by him for a number of years. John E. Kunkel moved to Oregon twenty-three years ago and for several years continued to assist in the operation of the flour mill on Mill Creek, later operated by his brother Gideon Kunkel. He retired from active work several years ago and died in 1913, at the age of 72 years. His wife, Mary Ann Hanner, who was a native of Baden, Germany, came to the United States when 15 years old, and located with her parents in Oregon. She died in 1910, aged 71 years.

Gideon Kunkel was married June 21, 1909, to Miss Della Tolbert, a native of Nodaway County. They have three children: Maurice, Wesley and Emil. Mr. Kunkel is a member of the Odd Fellows and Woodmen of the World lodges.

He has always lived in the county and was educated in the schools of Oregon. He first worked in his grandfather's woolen mill and later in the flour mill. In 1905 he accepted a position in the grocery store of George F. Seaman. Later he worked for Moore & Kreek. In 1910 he formed a partnership

with Levi N. Schulte and started the Variety Store, in which enterprise they have been successful.

THOMAS M. HINDE.

Thomas M. Hinde is the junior member of the Auto Sales Company of Oregon, dealers in automobiles. Mr. Hinde, in company with Frank Morgan, built the garage, they now occupy, in June, 1914. They have also a repair shop and do an auto livery business.

The subject of this sketch is the son of Thomas S. Hinde, who was born in Carmi, Ill. He came to Oregon about 1873 and was engaged in the drug business until the time of his death March 2, 1912, at the age of 65 years. His wife was Flora Ann Thompson, also of Carmi, Ill. She is living in Oregon. Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Hinde are the parents of seven children: Grace, wife of Dennis Boham, of Santiago, Calif.; William B., Thomas M., and James B., of Oregon; Edith, wife of Carey E. Bunker, of Oregon; Ouida, of Kansas City and Clarence, of Chicago.

Thomas M. Hinde was married November 27, 1912, to Hanna McIntyre, a native of Mound City, and the daughter of Ara and Cora (Pennell) McIntyre. Mr. Hinde comes from a family that has been active in the business affairs of Oregon for many years. He is public spirited, enterprising and energetic and is meeting with well deserved success.

WILLIAM A. HOPPER.

William A. Hopper, who with his brother George F., farms the old homestead in section 16, Minton Township, is the son of William R. Hopper ,who was born in Claiborne County, Tennessee, June 19, 1843. He was married in that county to Parmelia Goin in November, 1861. She was born in that county October 17, 1843. They moved to Kentucky soon afterward and then to Indiana. From there the family moved to Atchison County, Missouri, where they lived a year and moved to Kansas where they homesteaded a claim near Concordia, in the Republican Valley. They lived there two years and came to Holt County and bought the farm on which the family now lives. It was covered with timber at the time of purchase, but this has been cleared away and the land converted into a productive tract the equal of any in the township.

Later Mr. Hopper bought 160 acres which corners the home place on the southeast and at another time bought eighty acres adjoining it on the south. At a subsequent date he purchased 133½ acres which corners the home place on the southwest and again twenty-seven acres one-fourth of a mile southeast of his original purchase. Then he bought a half section in Palmer

County, Texas, in the Panhandle country. He still owns all of this land except the twenty-seven acre tract and ninety-three acres he sold to his son George, who lives on that tract. Mr. Hopper gave up active farming ten years ago and turned the place over to the boys. His wife died April 23, 1913.

William A. Hopper was married July 26, 1903, to Cordie Cotton, who was born in Holt County, and is the daughter of Jeff and Mary Cotton. They have two children: Jerry Harold and Kenneth. One child, the second born, Ethel Lucile, died August 23, 1911. Mr. Hopper is a member of the Masonic lodge in Forest City.

WILLIAM A. NIES.

William A. Nies, proprietor of the tin shop in Craig, has been a resident of Holt County since 1865. He was born in Canton, Ohio, September 8, 1849. When 16 years of age his parents moved to Oregon, where he resided twenty-nine years. He entered the tin shop of his father in 1865 and learned the trade thoroughly. He followed his trade in Oregon until 1891, when he moved to Craig, where he has since resided and where he owns his business and a home.

He was married in Atchison County, Missouri, February 22, 1894, to Miss Nora Waits, a native of that county and the daughter of Richard Waits. They have six children: Frank, with the Long-Bell Lumber Co.; Leona, Gertrude, Lucile, Hildred and William A. Mr. Nies is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge.

He is the son of John and Eliza Nies, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio. They moved from Oregon, Holt County, to Port Townsend, Ore. ,in 1889, where they died.

FRANK FOSTER.

Frank Foster is proprietor of the west side harness shop in Oregon. He carries a nice line of buggies, wagons and harness there, and is also the junior member of the firm of Cook & Foster, dealers in automobiles and proprietors of one of the leading garages in Oregon.

Mr. Foster was born in Oregon, March 17, 1870, and has made his home here since that time. He was educated in the schools of his native town. After leaving school he began his business career as a clerk for D. M. Martin in his harness shop, then located the first door south of the Zook & Roecker Bank. He worked there seventeen years and then bought out his employer. He has since been in this line of business and deserves all of the success he has earned, for it has come by hard work,

close attention to business and honesty. When he first engaged in business for himself he was in partnership with D. B. Simmons, which partnership continued for six years. With its dissolution Mr. Foster became the sole proprietor.

He is the son of Jehu Foster, a native of Indiana, who came to Oregon in the early days and was one of the town's first harness men. He married Ellen Markland, also a native of Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Jehu Foster are dead. They had two children: Emma, wife of Frank H. Graham and the subject of this sketch.

Frank Foster was married February 11, 1905, to Miss Anna Thuma, who was born in Mound City, Mo., June 6, 1872, and is the daughter of Daniel W. Thuma. Mr. Foster is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge in Oregon.

LEWIS P. WATSON.

Lewis P. Watson is superintendent of the Forest City Canning Company and part owner of the property. This factory was built in 1898 by Allen Brothers of Omaha, wholesale grocers. This firm owned the plant until May, 1915, when John Speer bought it and he and Mr. Watson have since been the owners.

Mr. Watson was born in Webster County, Missouri, June 1, 1868. When three years old the family moved to Springfield, Ill., and lived there until he reached the age of 12 years. Then they moved to Springdale, Washington County, Arkansas, where they lived one year. It was here that Mr. Watson had his first experience in the canning business. His next move was to Fort Smith where he was engaged with a canning company eight months, when he went to Blair, Nebr., where he had charge of the Blair Canning Company's plant for four years. He was manager of a similar plant at Falls City, Nebr., four years and at York, Nebr., one year. Then for a few years he was out of the canning business. In 1895 he returned to Blair, Nebr., and remained a year. He was processor in the canning factory at Oregon, Mo., 1896-97. Then he came to Forest City and built the factory here for Allen Brothers and has since been its superintendent.

Mr. Watson was married November 20, 1895, at Blair, Nebr., to Rhoda M. Parrish, who was born in Janesville, Wis., in 1872. They have three children: Verna M., now Mrs. J. H. Lord, of Salem, Nebr.; Gerrald F., of Salem, Nebr., and Edgar Allen Austin, living at home. Mr. Watson is an Odd Fellow and has served as city councilman and member of the school board. He is also engaged in the insurance business, being agent for some of the best companies in the country. He is the son of William Watson of Sangamore County, Illinois, who died there in 1913 at the age of 74 years.

DR. JOHN M. DAVIS.

Dr. John M. Davis has been a practicing physician in Craig for twenty-one years. He was born in Greenville, Tenn., September 29, 1862. In 1865 his parents moved to Iowa Point, Kans., and the following year to Phelps, Atchison County, Missouri. In 1867 they bought a farm in Union Township and lived there until 1871, when they returned to Atchison County where the doctor lived until 1885. After receiving a rural school education he attended the Missouri State University two years and in 1885 graduated from the medical school at the university. In 1886 he began practicing at Grinnell, Kan., and in 1890 moved to Gove City, the county seat of Gove County, Kansas, where he remained a year. He located in Tarkio, Mo., in 1891, and in the spring of 1895 moved to Craig, where he has built up an excellent and lucrative practice.

He is the son of John H. Davis, of Greenville, Tenn., who is now living with a daughter in Drexel, Mo. His wife, the mother of Dr. Davis, died in 1890.

The doctor was married July 20, 1890, at Grinnell, Kan., to Mrs. Mary B. Mitchell. They have one son: John M. Davis, Jr., a high school student and a step-son, A. L. Mitchell, of Oklahoma City.

The doctor is a member of the Masonic lodge at Craig and the Scottish Rite Masons of St. Joseph. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge at Craig and is the examining physician. He is local surgeon for the Burlington railroad and a member of the Holt County and Missouri State Medical associations. He has been a member of the town council and of the school board.

FRANK M. WARD.

Frank M. Ward, manager of the Farmers' Elevator Company, at Craig, was born August 13, 1888, on his father's farm north of Craig, in Union Township. He is the youngest son of H. L. Ward, who came from Kentucky about 1874. He owned several farms and in addition to managing them engaged in buying live stock in the early days. He died in 1909, at the age of 69 years, while in Jefferson City serving as a representative in the legislature, to which office he was elected in the fall of 1908. He was married to Frances E. Sharp, daughter of Abraham Sharp, one of the very early settlers in Holt County. She now resides in Craig with her son Frank M.

Frank M. Ward is a graduate of the Craig high school, class of 1907. He attended the Tarkio College three years, after which he managed the home farm for three years. When the

Farmers' Elevator Company was organized in Craig in 1912 Mr. Ward was made manager, a position he still holds in addition to being one of the stockholders of the company.

Mr. Ward is a member of the Masonic lodge in Craig. He is also a member of the city council having been elected in the spring of 1915 for a two-year term.

JAMES T. CARLTON.

James T. Carlton, proprietor of "Tom's" restaurant at Craig, was born in that town June 10, 1881, and has ever since lived there. He was educated in the local schools and when a mere lad began clerking in a general merchandise store. He has been in the restaurant business for seventeen years. He bought his present business place June 20, 1908.

He is the son of John M. and Fannie (Martin) Carlton, natives of Kentucky and Illinois, respectively. They came to Holt County in 1879. Mr. Carlton, the elder, died August 25, 1915, at the age of 77 years; Mrs. Carlton is living in Craig.

James T. Carlton was married in St. Joseph January 3, 1912, to Miss Ethel Virginia Waters, who was born in Brookfield, Mo., and is the daughter of Joseph and Anna E. Waters. They have two children: Lola May and Helen. Mr. Carlton is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge. He owns his place of business and residence property, which was built in 1913.

NORTON B. SCOTT.

Norton B. Scott located in Craig in 1906. He is proprietor of a blacksmith shop there and also handles farm machinery of all kinds. The first few months he was in the town he worked for Charles Siple, and then engaged in business on his own account. In 1912 he added a line of farm machinery.

He was born in New Lenox, Ill., May 4, 1879. The family moved to Westmoreland, Kan., and he grew up there. He learned the trade of blacksmith and in 1904 operated a shop in Soldier, Kan. Two years later he located in Craig.

Mr. Scott was married February 28, 1906, to Ruth Gardner, who was born in Soldier, Kan. They have two children: Lowell and Francis.

The subject of this sketch is the son of George and Esther Scott, natives of Scotland and New York State, respectively.

Mr. Scott has served two terms as alderman. He also was elected to the school board in 1912.

ALBERT B. STOKES.

Albert B. Stokes, Burlington agent at Craig, has been a resident of Holt County since his boyhood, and has been in the employ of the Burlington since 1882. He was born in Maredosia, Ill., January 5, 1867. His parents moved to Craig when he was one year old and he has since made that town his home. He was educated in the Craig schools and at the age of 15 years began railroading as a helper to A. M. Hunter, the veteran agent there. Mr. Stokes gained several promotions and twelve years ago was placed in charge of the station. He is the son of John W. Stokes, for many years a practicing attorney of Craig.

Albert B. Stokes was married March 4, 1891, to Martha Spink, a native of Cooperville, Mich., who was born October 9, 1866, and is the daughter of W. G. and Mary (Watson) Spink, natives of New York State. They have no children.

Mr. Stokes is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge and has served as city alderman.

CHARLES W. ANIBAL.

Charles W. Anibal, proprietor of a general store in Craig, was born in Minton Township, one mile south of Fortescue, August 23, 1869, in a log cabin on a farm now owned by John C. Hinkle. He is the son of Edmund Ainbal, a native of Fulton County, New York, who came to Holt County in 1866. His wife, the mother of the subject of this sketch, was Phoebe J. Hinkle, a native of Franklin County, Missouri, and a sister of John C. Hinkle.

Charles W. Anibal was married in May, 1892, to Miss Ethel Guilliams, who was born in Union Township and is the daughter of Rufus M. and Emma Guilliams, old residents of Craig. They have three children: Fred G., Francis and Josephine. Mr. Anibal is a member of the Masonic, Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen lodges. He was mayor of Craig one term, county assessor two terms and member of the school board two terms. He has served five terms as Venerable Consul of Craig Camp No. 5140 M. W. A., and represented the Holt County camps of that order in the state convention in Sedalia in 1913. He is a member of the M. E. Church, South.

Mr. Anibal received his education in the elementary schools of Holt County and at Central College, located at Fayette, Howard County, Missouri, an institution of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, renowned in the educational world for its thorough methods and superior cirriculae.

JOHN MAURICE STOKES.

John Maurice Stokes, proprietor of a drug store at Craig, was born in that town March 24, 1883, and, with the exception

of four years, has lived there all of his life. He graduated from the Craig high school in 1903. He is a registered pharmacist, taking the examination at Jefferson City January 9, 1911. When out of school he entered the Cox drug store at Craig and worked six years. In 1909 he bought the D. D. Perkins stock and has since been in business.

A feature of Mr. Stokes store worthy of mention is what he terms "The Log Cabin Inn." It is a unique room fitted up for special parties who wish to be served with ice cream and other refreshments.

The subject of these paragraphs is the son of John W. Stokes, one of the county's first and most prominent attorneys, who came to Craig in 1868, the year the Burlington railroad was built to Council Bluffs. He died September 17, 1913, at the age of 77 years.

John Maurice Stokes was married April 3, 1906, to Ida L. Willard, a native of Illinois and daughter of James and Sarah Willard. They have one daughter, Roena, born April 7, 1910. Mr. Stokes is a Mason and Modern Woodman, and has held all the chairs in both lodges in Craig.

JOHN H. HUNT.

John H. Hunt, manager of the H. B. Lawrence feed mill, at Craig, was one of the early settlers of Union Township. He came to Holt County in February, 1855, and has since resided in the county, with the exception of five years spent in Kansas. He was born in Tippecanoe County, Indiana, November 16, 1849. His father was Joshua Hunt, a native of Green County, Pennsylvania. He was a miller by trade and bought the old Dr. Mann saw and grist mill on the Big Tarkio river after coming to Holt County. He died in October, 1898. His wife, mother of the subject of this sketch, was born in August, 1823, and died April 26, 1891.

John H. Hunt followed the occupation of farmer until 1902, when he moved to Craig and took up carpentering and wagon work. June 1, 1914, he became the manager of the H. B. Lawrence feed mill.

Mr. Hunt was married January 4, 1874, to Diann Thompson, who was born in Pike County, Ohio, September 7, 1844, and a daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Thompson. They have no children.

Mr. Hunt is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge at Craig. He is a past grand master and has also been treasurer of the lodge for the past nine years. He was county judge of the north district for two terms, being elected on the Republican ticket in

the fall of 1908. He served as mayor of Craig 1914-1915 and has also served as member of the school board. He owns two residence properties in Craig.

GUS O. BERLS.

Gus O. Berls, proprietor of the City Bakery at Craig, has been a resident of the town for three years. He has been there long enough to establish an excellent reputation for fair dealing, honesty and integrity and as a consequence enjoys the esteem and confidence of his townsmen.

Mr. Berls was born in New York City, July 28, 1884, where he lived until 14 years old when he began traveling over the country gaining experience and wisdom. He returned to New York at the age of 19 and learned the baker's trade. For several years he was with Fred Harvey, famous for his chain of restaurants and eating houses throughout the west and southwest, as pastry chef. Then he was chef-stewart at the Basin Park Hotel, at Eureka Springs, Ark. Coming to Craig in 1912 he bought out a bakery and has been successful in building up a profitable business. He owns a modern bake shop and everything about the place is first class.

Mr. Berls was married at Kinsley, Kan., July 17, 1911, to Constance Petit Clere. To this union has been born one child. Marie C., who died at the age of 5 months. He is a member of the Odd Fellows, Masonic and Elks lodges.

ERNEST RANDALL.

Ernest Randall, proprietor of the Craig pool hall, was born on his father's farm, five miles south of Craig. He is the son of Z. T. Randall, a native of Kentucky and an early settler in Holt County. The later years of his life he spent in Craig, where he was in the insurance business. He died in 1913, at the age of 63 years. His wife is still living in Craig.

Ernest was married December 18, 1907, to Alcanie Overly, who was born at Bigelow and is the daughter of Henry Overly. They have three children: Katherine, Francis and Lavena. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

His place of business is located in the old Phillips building. He runs three tables, all of which he bought when he began business.

GEORGE E. GELVIN.

George E. Gelvin, former sheriff of Holt County, was born in the farm in Nodaway Township which his father homesteaded in 1869. There George grew to manhood and received his

education. He remained in his father's farm until 1894, when he was married and began farming on his own account. The second year he rented the old Carroll place and the following year he bought the east eighty acres of his father's farm and moved there at once. In the autumn of the same year he increased his real estate holdings by buying 160 acres adjoining the old Carroll place on the east. He ran this farm of 240 acres until 1903, when he moved to Oregon, where he has since lived. He was in the livery business three years and ran a butcher shop for about a year. In January, 1906, he was appointed deputy sheriff and held that office for six years. In the fall of 1912 he was elected to the office of sheriff.

He is the son of Mathew and Mary E. (Tritt) Gelvin, natives of Pennsylvania. They came to Holt County in 1868 and settled in Nodaway Township, where they lived until 1905, when they moved to Oregon, where Mrs. Gelvin still lives. Mr. Gelvin died August 4, 1910, at the age of 72 years.

George Gelvin is known as one of the live wires of Oregon and takes great interest in the public affairs of the town. He was succeeded as sheriff in January, 1917, by Benjamin Crouser. He is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows lodges.

JONATHAN E. RUNDLE.

Jonathan E. Rundle, dealer in fruit and produce, has been a resident of Craig for eleven years. He was born near Phelps, Atchison County, Missouri, April 16, 1868, and when two years old the family moved to Holt County and for two years lived in Craig. Then they moved to the community five miles south of Craig, where Mr. Rundle grew up. At the age of 18 years he began farming for himself and bought and sold apples in season.

In 1904 the subject of this sketch moved to Craig and has since been in the fruit and produce business there. He is one of the heaviest apple shippers in the county and has sent Holt County fruit to nearly all countries on the globe. His first foreign shipment was to Liverpool, England, and consisted of 160 barrels of Ben Davis apples. In 1913 his son Elmer accompanied a shipment of 365 barrels to London. Mr. Rundle is considered one of the best men in the state in the grading and packing of fruit. In normal years he ships from fifty to eighty-five cars.

He is the son of Nirum C. Rundle, who was born in Marion County, Ohio. His mother was Sarah Leighton, a native of the same county. N. C. Rundle came to Holt County in 1843.

Jonathan Rundle was married in Craig, March 22, 1892, to Eva E. Wells, who was born in Belleville, Kan., March 22, 1874, and is the daughter of James Wells. To this union has been born nine children: James L., George E., Vivian E., Maude B.,

Sarah E., Mabel, Thomas R., Evelyn and Ralph. Mrs. Rundle died August 11, 1914, aged 40 years. She was a member of the Christian church.

Mr. Rundle is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge and the International Apple Shippers' Association.

CLAUD CLARK.

Claud Clark has been a resident of Mound City since 1877, and is proprietor of Clark's Cafe, one of the popular places in Mound City where ice cream, soda fountain drinks and like refreshments are sold. He also operates a first-class bakery and restaurant.

Mr. Clark was born in Keithburg, Ill., October 18, 1871. When 2 years old the family moved to California for the benefit of the health of Mr. Clark's father. Upon the death of the senior Clark after four years' residence in California the family moved to Mound City. There Claud grew up and attended the public schools of the town. He has lived there continuously with the exception of eighteen months in Chicago during the world's fair there, and nine months in Wyoming, when he was a lad about 11 years old. At that time he went with Henry Ashbrook as a herder, Ashbrook taking to Wyoming about 1,600 head of cattle for the range.

Claud has always been a worker. He was first employed when a youth by the Mound City flour mill. Then he spent several years on a farm following that with a year and a half in Chicago as before stated. He then traveled for the Baker Medicine Company for nine years. He ran the Hiatt House two years; then bought the John Peters restaurant and ran it two years. He next bought a restaurant on the east side of the main street and sold it after four and a half years, but bought it again. Later he sold out and bought the two-story brick building two doors south of the Gladstone Hotel, which he remodeled and in which he is conducting one of the best places of the kind in Northwest Missouri.

He is the son of David and Alice (Hiatt) Clark, both of whom were born in Illinois. Mrs. David Clark was the daughter of W. T. Hiatt, a Holt County pioneer. She died in 1912 and her husband in 1877.

Claud Clark was married at Craig, Mo., to Emma Caton, daughter of John and Nancy (Taylor) Caton. Mr. Caton died several years ago and Mrs. Caton is living in Mound City. Mr. and Mrs. Clark have one daughter, Helen.

Mr. Clark is a member of the Odd Fellows and Elks lodges and has served on the board of aldermen four years. He has

made a marked success of his business. He owns his business property, a fine home and a farm in Dallas County, Missouri.

DR. CHARLES L. GOMEL.

Dr. Charles L. Gomel is a practicing veterinary surgeon of Craig and is one of the most successful men in his profession in this part of the country. He graduated from the Kansas City Veterinary College in the spring of 1908. Since then he has been practicing in Craig.

Dr. Gomel was born in Mound City, August 2, 1889, and when three years old the family moved to Craig, where they have since resided. After his young school days he put in his time on his father's farm until he began the study of veterinary surgery. He entered the Kansas City college in 1905.

He is the son of John L. Gomel, a native of Ohio. His mother was Sarah C. Ungles of Kentucky. The elder Gomel died in March, 1915; Mrs. oGmel is living in Craig.

Dr. Gomel was married March 3, 1909, to Miss Stella Secrest, who was born in Holt County and is the daughter of George Secrest. They have no children.

DR. DANIEL W. GUILLIAMS.

Dr. Daniel W. Guilliams, veterinarian and proprietor of a feed barn in Craig, was born in Union Township, July 12, 1855, and has lived all of his life in Holt County. He is one of the live business men of that town and stands high in the community in which he lives.

He is the son of Calvin M. Guilliams, who came to Holt County in 1879. Dr. Guilliams was married July 23, 1874, to Martha Frances Seabourn, who was born near Bethany, Harrison County, Missouri, February 10, 1858. They have two children, Emmett D., and Minnie, wife of Charles E. Cies, of Craig.

Dr. Guilliams owns two farms in Union Township and a feed barn in Craig, which he conducts in connection with his professional practice. He has been a veterinarian for twenty years. He grew up on his father's farm in Union Township and resided there until his marriage in 1874. He moved to Craig in 1892 and ran the livery barn which he later bought, until 1898. Then he devoted his time to professional practice and ran one of his farms, until 1915, when he again returned to town. He owns four properties in Craig.

EZRA S. M'DONALD.

Ezra S. McDonald, retired contractor of Oregon, was born in Richland County, Ohio, December 4, 1840. He is the son of

Daniel and Lydia S. (Woodward) McDonald, the former a native of Tennessee and the latter of Ohio. The subject of these paragraphs remained on his father's farm until he was 16 years old when he began his apprenticeship as a carpenter. In 1862 he went to Detroit, Mich., where he worked for one year, after which he returned to Ohio. He subsequently worked on some of the larger buildings constructed in that day in Indianapolis.

Mr. McDonald came to Holt County in 1868 and settled on a farm near New Point. Besides operating the farm he worked at his trade and for many years was a prominent building contractor in Hickory and adjoining townships. In 1880 he bought the wagonmaking business of Clark F. Barnes in New Point and continued in this enterprise for several years. In 1892 he moved to Oregon and has made his home here since. He has filled the office of justice of the peace both in New Point and Oregon and a few years ago served one term as city collector of Oregon. He retired from the activities of business a few years ago because of his age and is now spending the evening of his life at his home in Oregon.

He was married February 6, 1868, in Richland County, Ohio, to Miss Martha Ruhl, who was born January 12, 1850, in Ohio. She is the daughter of William and Mary Ruhl, who came to Holt County from Ohio in 1868. To this union has been born four children: Elwood L., living in St. Joseph; Jennie L., wife of Jacob Wehrli, of Mound City; Herby J., of Oregon; Mattie Ora, who died in Oregon April 7, 1899. Mr. McDonald is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge and the Presbyterian church. Politically he is a Republican.

JOHN B. COFFIN.

John B. Coffin, retired business man, of New Point, has been identified with the activities of that town for nearly half a century and has done his full share in promoting the development of the community in which he made his home. Public spirited and broad minded, he has been an inspiration and guide to the younger men who are now called into active business and industrial life.

Mr. Coffin was born in Wayne County, Indiana, November 3, 1849, and lived there until 25 years of age, and where he received his education. He learned the trade of blacksmith in Washington, Ind., and when he came to New Point, June 7, 1875, he at once opened a shop and began business. Being a thorough mechanic and a straightforward business man he inspired a confidence in his patrons that inevitably resulted in a pronounced success in his chosen field of endeavor. He retired a few years ago happy in the thought that he had done his full share during

his alloted years of service. He owns several fine farms and a residence property in New Point.

Mr. Coffin was married November 12, 1876, to Miss Rachael Cable of New Point. To this union has been born two daughters: Grace, now Mrs. C. A. Wright, and Bessie, at home. Politically Mr. Coffin is a Republican. He has served as school director ten or twelve years and was a member of the board when the first school house was built in New Point.

EDWIN HEATON.

Edwin Heaton is cashier of the Heaton Bank at Craig which was established in 1877, by his father William H. Heaton, but of which Edwin has had entire charge since 1887. For the past fifteen years this bank has led all others in the county in the matter of deposits, the statement of March 5, 1917, showing $387,117.98.

Mr. Heaton is one of the leading bankers of Northwest Missouri. He has made banking his hobby and his study since he was a boy. Through his efforts the Heaton Bank ranks among the leading financial institutions of this part of the state. It has been under one management longer than any other bank in the county. William H. Heaton has remained president since its organization and Edwin Heaton has been cashier since 1882. The bank has been in its present quarters since 1881. Edwin Heaton is engaged in no other business except banking.

Mr. Heaton was born in Bushnell, Ill., September 27, 1866. In 1874 his family came to Quitman, Mo., where his father was for several years associated with John S. Bilby in the mercantile business. The family moved to Craig in 1877, when the Heaton Bank was established. In 1887 the senior Heaton removed to Bushnell, Ill., where he and his son Ed established the Citizens Bank. He lived there until 1912 when he returned to Craig.

Edwin Heaton was married February 8, 1894, to Miss Emma Kaltenbach, daughter of John Kaltenbach, who came to Holt County in the early '60's and located near Oregon. Mr. and Mrs. Heaton have one son, George E., assistant cashier in his father's bank. Mr. Heaton is a member of the Masonic lodge.

Edwin Heaton is the son of William H. and Catherine (Eakle) Heaton, natives of Illinois and Ohio, respectively. Mrs. Heaton died December 12, 1912.

WILLIAM S. THOMPSON.

William S. Thompson was married April 9, 1890, at Bigelow and also owner of the Wickiser opera house has been a resident of Craig since 1892. He was born in Morgan County, Missouri,

February 4, 1866, where he lived until 20 years old and where he was educated.

Mr. Thompson came to Holt County in 1886 and for six years clerked in a general merchandise store in Bigelow, owned by B. F. Fleming. In 1892 he bought the hardware stock of C. B. Holdridge in Craig and the following year moved it to more commodious quarters. The business has grown from practically nothing to the point where the annual sales amount to $60,000. He carries the largest stock in his line in Northwest Missouri. When he bought the old stock it invoiced $900; now the inventory is around $12,000. He owns the southwest corner of the block in which his store is located; a fine home in the town and a farm near Craig.

He is the son of George and Segius (Shackleford) Thompson, natives of Virginia and Kentucky, respectively. The senior Thompson is living in Council Bluffs; his wife died in 1872.

Willia mS. Thompson was married April 9, 1890, at Bigelow to Carrie Hoffman, daughter of Joseph Hoffman, an early settler in Holt County. To them have been born five children: George F., James E., Mary Segius, Carrie S., and Bertha Ann. Mr. Thompson is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge. He is president of the Craig school board and has served as a member of the board for fourteen years. He is a member of the Christian church and with the exception of two years has been superintendent of the Sunday school for eighteen years.

ERNEST COOK.

Ernest Cook is the junior member of the Cook Monumental Works of Mound City. He has made Mound City his home for a number of years and is known as one of the best granite and monumental men in the county. He was born in Oregon, Mo., April 27, 1876. He attended the schools there and at Mound City to which place he moved and made his home with his uncle, John Cook, until 18 years of age, his father dying when he was eleven years old and he was thrown on his own resources.

At the age of 18 he began learning the blacksmith trade and worked at it 7 years. Before learning his trade of blacksmith Mr. Cook spent several years traveling over the Middle West selling novelties. He then entered the employ of Henry Cook his brother, of Oregon, in the sale of monuments, and remained in this connection for five years. In 1908 he engaged in the monument business in Mound City for himself and was there until 1914. He then went to St. Joseph and was engaged in the same business there two years. He then returned to Mound City and foremd partnership with his brother, Henry Cook, under the firm name of The Cook Monumental Works, with office and

plant at Mound City. This firm has one of the best plants in Northwest Missouri and carries the largest and best stock of marble and granite goods in the county.

Ernest Cook was married Feb. 2, 1902, to Miss Olive Huiatt, who was born in Holt County four or five miles southeast of Oregon, and is the daughter of George and Elizabeth Huiatt. They have one daughter, Maudine Elizabeth Cook, born in 1903. Mr. Cook is a member of the W. O. W. lodge.

JAMES C. MEYER.

James C. Meyer, son of one of the earliest settlers of Holt County, resides on his farm of 110 acres in Lewis Township, where he has lived for thirty-five years. This farm was entered in the early '50's by Jack Beeler, later owned by R. H. Russell, from whom it was purchased by the present owner.

Andrew Meyer, grandfather of James C. Meyer, was the head of the Meyer family, one of the best known in Holt County. He came from Germany in 1834, and patented a farm in Lewis Township, one mile west of James C. Meyer's farm. He lived there until his death in the '60's and the farm has never passed out of the Meyer family.

James C. Meyer of this sketch was born on his father's farm adjoining that of his grandfather on the south, July 14, 1858. He lived on the farm until 1880, when he was married and a year later bought the place where he has since lived with the exception of eighteen months. He also owns 172 acres seven and one-half miles northwest of his present farm, on which his son, Dwight L. Meyer lives.

James C. is the son of Jacob Meyer, who was born in Germany in 1834, and when one month old, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Meyer came to America. Jacob Meyer died in 1873 and his wife is still living in Forest City at the age of 73 years.

James C. Meyer was married in Oregon, September 8, 1880, to Elizabeth D. Lukens, who was born in Caddus, O., January 7, 1860, and is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. S. B. Lukens, who came to Holt County from Ohio in 1874. To Mr. and Mrs. Meyer have been born twelve children: Two twins died in infancy; Edna L., who married Samuel Chesney, died in 1906; the eldest son, Charles S., died at the age of 18 years; Elmer died when 9 years old. Those living are: James R., farming north of Forest City; Dwight L., also a farmer; Jennie, who married Midway Hoover and lives in Forest City; Bessie D., Russell and Willie at home. Harry Chesney, age 11, son of Edna, lives with his grandparents.

BENJAMIN F. MUMM.

Benjamin F. Mumm, son of Jacob Mumm, was for many years one of the active business men of Mound City. Jacob Mumm was born in Schleswig, Holstein, Germany, November 8, 1834. He was married in St. Joseph, August 6, 1863, to Mary Elizabeth Jessen, who had come to this country from Schleswig a few years before. Mr. Mumm was engaged with Mr. Pinger in the packing business until 1880 when he moved to Mound City and engaged in the lumber business, the firm being Mumm, Moss & Co. He bought out his partners in 1885 and continued the business alone until 1894 when he sold to the Green Bay Lumber Co., and engaged in the buggy and implement business. He died February 27, 1896. He served in the Union army during the Civil war, was an active Odd Fellow and took a prominent part in the civic and commercial life of his home city. He took much interest in the affairs of the Methodist church of which he was a member. Mrs. Mumm is still living in Mound City.

Benjamin Mumm was born in Mound City July 31, 1881. There he grew to manhood and graduated from the Mound City high school in 1898. He was with Meyer & Fuller as a clerk several years and in 1904 when that enterprise was incorporated and reorganized he was taken in as a partner, and name changed to the Meyer-Fuller Mercantile Co. Mr. Mumm moved to St. Joseph in 1909 and has since lived there. He is a member of Holt Lodge No. 341, Odd Fellows, of Mound City and Elks Lodge No. 40, St. Joseph.

JOHN A. LENTZ.

John A. Lentz, proprietor of the auto repair shop at New Point, is one of the successful business men of that village and a man who by persistence, industry and honesty has laid the foundation for the success which is now crowning his efforts. He was born in Albion, Noble County, Indiana, November 6, 1866, and came with his parents to Missouri in 1879. They stopped in Holt County for a short time and moved on to Larned, Pawnee County, Kansas, but came back to Missouri in the fall of 1880. Mr. Lentz has lived in and near New Point ever since.

He was educated in the public schools of New Point and early developed an aptitude for mechanics. While living with his father on a farm a short distance east of New Point he operated a saw mill and for several years owned a threshing outfit in which enterprise he gave general satisfaction to his patrons. By treating his customers fairly and making his pledged word as good as a government bond, he built up a profitable business and he now numbers his friends by hundreds. About fifteen years ago he engaged in the repair business in New Point and

as the automobile industry developed he kept pace with it and now has an exceptionally well equipped plant for handling all classes of work in this line.

Mr. Lentz was married February 4, 1909, to Miss Lena Kramer, of New Point. They have one child, Hazel. He is a member of the Presbyterian church while his wife worships at the German Methodist church in Richville. Fraternally Mr. Lentz is an Odd Fellow and a Woodman. Politically he is a Democrat.

HARRY S. BROWNING.

Harry S. Browning, custodian of the Commercial Block in St. Joseph, was born in Holt County, October 3, 1873, on his father's farm in Union Township. He lived there until 22 years old when, for three years he farmed for himself. He then moved to St. Joseph, where he has since lived. He was first foreman of the ice plant for the Hammond Packing Company for three years, then with the Bell Telephone Company, as lineman for a like period. He then took the position of doorkeeper at the old Palace Theatre; then he returned to the Bell Telephone Company and in 1910 accepted the position of custodian of the Commercial Block.

He is the son of Elias W. Browning, a native of Kentucky, a brother of James and Napoleon Browning, now of Mound City. The three brothers came to Holt County in 1884 and engaged in farming. Elias Browning died in May, 1910, at the age of 82 years.

Harry Browning was married twice, and by his first wife has a daughter, Mabel, who married Lester Davis and lives in Holt County. He was married again in St. Joseph April 21, 1914, to Anna Young who was born near Plattsmouth, Nebr., and has lived in St. Joseph since a child. He is an Odd Fellow and an Eagle and a member of the Loyal Protective Association. He owns a pretty residence at 3304 Penn Street, St. Joseph.

WINFIELD SCOTT GIFFORD.

Winfield Scott Gifford, farmer, lives in Lewis Township, where he owns 730 acres of fine land. He also owns two farms comprising 300 acres in Forbes Township. In addition he owns an irrigated farm on the Platte River, in Colorado, near the Platte Canyon; five quarter sections in Rawlings County, Kansas; one quarter section in Greeley County, Kansas; one quarter section in Grant County, Kansas; three quarter sections in Haskell County, Kansas; residence property on South Twelfth Street, St. Joseph.

Mr. Gifford was born in Oswego County, New York, Jan-

uary 14, 1847, where he was educated. At the age of 18 years he came west in March, 1865. He stopped in Warren County, Illinois, where a relative was making up an overland outfit of five wagons to go to Denver, Colo. Gifford went to St. Joseph by train and there joined the caravan. The outfit was loaded with merchandise from the McCord wholesale house. The start from St. Joseph was made June 3, 1865, and the party landed in Denver the night of July 4. Mr. Gifford continued in the overland freight business three years.

He then traded his stock for a farm near Stewartsville, Mo., and farmed there one year. Then he went to Troy, Kansas, and bought and hauled hay to the St. Joseph market one year. The next three years he hauled freight from the northern part of Buchanan County to St. Joseph. Then he traveled three years for Gernandt & Knight of St. Joseph, after which he took charge of the company's store in St. Joseph. He bought his present home farm from Davis Carpenter in 1881 and moved there in 1884.

He is the son of Gurnee Gifford, a native of Oswego County, New York. The ancestors of the family were Welsh, coming to the United States in 1700.

W. S. Gifford has been married twice. The first time in St. Joseph in 1877 to Caroline Doll, who died in 1878. To them was born one child, Caroline Lottie, now Mrs. Harry Jamison of Denver, Colo. He was married again in Holt County to Julia Schlotzhauer. To this union has been born seven sons and two daughters: Christopher Gurnee, John Courtland, Ruhamah, now Mrs. John Peret of Oregon, Ben Frank, Winfield Scott. Jr., Herman E., Dorothy, Donald R. and Keith G. Mr. Gifford is a member of the Masonic lodge at Oregon. Politically he is a Republican.

PHILLIP SCHLOTZHAUER.

Phillip Schlotzhauer, farmer, president of the Home Bank at Forest City, president of the Farmers Elevator Co., of Forest City and clerk of Bluff City School District No. 61, has been a resident of Holt County since 1864, and has made his home on the farm of 190 acres on which he is living and which his father bought in the early days.

Mr. Schlotzhauer was born in Atchison County, Missouri, March 30, 1856, and when eight years old moved with his parents to the farm in Lewis Township, which has never yet passed out of the family. He was educated in the district school. The building was a log cabin affair on the site now occupied by Peter Sipe's residence. It was first known as the Pollock school, but at the time young Schlotzhauer attended was called the Snyder school.

In 1892-93 Mr. Schlotzhauer was in Lincoln, Nebr., in the freight department of the Burlington railroad. He then returned to Holt County and took charge of his father's farm and saw mill. His father at that time moved to Oregon, where he died in 1895. Two years later the subject of this sketch bought the home farm. In 1910 he was one of the organizers of the Home Bank of Forest City. He was vice-president the first year and has since been president. He was judge of the County Court from the southern district two terms from 1908 to 1912.

He is the son of Christopher Schlotzhauer, whose wife was Dorothy Snyder. Both came to the United States from Germany when children. They were married in Cooper County, Missouri, near Pilot Grove. Mrs. Schlotzhauer is still living with her son Phillip.

The subject of these paragraphs was married first in 1880 to Fannie Hunter, who died a year later. To them was born one child, Ivy, who died at the age of three years. Mr. Schlotzhauer in 1900 married Harriett E. Marriner, whose home was near Burlington Junction, in Nodaway County. One child blessed this union: Katheleine, who died at the age of 2 years. Mr. Schlotzhauer is a member of the Masonic blue lodge, Shrine, Odd Fellows, Eastern Star, Rebekah and Modern Woodmen lodges. He is a Republican and has always taken an active interest in politics. He has attended county and state conventions on many occasions. Religiously he is a Methodist.

CHARLES N. DOBYNS.

Charles N. Dobyns, editor of the Corning Mirror, came to Holt County in 1880. He first lived at Oregon and later moved to Craig, where he published the Leader for seventeen years. In 1904 he went to Corning and established the Mirror, and has since made Corning his home. When he first came to Holt County he taught school in several country districts, including Corning.

Mr. Dobyns was born in Keokuk, Iowa, April 3, 1856. His early education was received in the public schools there and he later attended the Iowa University at Iowa City.

He is the son of Lewis C. and Mary R. Dobyns, natives of Kentucky and Virginia, respectively. They were of German parentage and both are dead.

Mr. Dobyns was married in 1890 to Miss Clara B. McNabb, a native of Ohio. She died in 1907. Of this union six children are living: Louis C., Richard T., Mrs. Mildred Curry, Morton, Clement and Neva. Politically Mr. Dobyns is a Republican.

DR. J. T. THATCHER.

Dr. John Thomas Thatcher, one of the best known and the oldest practicing physician in the county, in point of service, with the exception of Dr. J. M. Tracy of Mound City, has been prominently identified with the business and civic life of Oregon for the past thirty-six years. His name is a household word throughout Holt County and there are a very few people in the county who are not personally acquainted with him and who can attest to his many redeeming qualifications, his efficient services and high character.

The doctor is a native son of Missouri, having first seen the light of day in Schuyler County on August 22, 1850. After obtaining the rudiments of an education in the county of his birth he decided to take up the practice of medicine as his life work. To this end he attended the Detroit School of Homoeopathy, from which he graduated in 1874. He then moved to Atchison, Kans., where he practiced for four years; then to St. Joseph where he formed a partnership with Dr. Wm. G. Hall. From that city he returned to Atchison and in 1878 he removed to Oregon, his present home.

Dr. Thatcher is a member of the Missouri Institute of Homoeopathy, Missouri Medical Society and the Holt County Medical Society. He served several years as county physician and eight years on the State Board of Health, four years under Governor Dockery and four years under Governor Folk. The doctor is a life-long Democrat and has done valiant work for his party, and for a number of years was secretary of the Holt County Democratic Central Committee. He is a member of the Blue Lodge of Masons at Oregon and of the Shriners of St. Joseph. Also is an Odd Fellow, joining at Atchison, Kan., in 1874.

Dr. Thatcher has been twice married. His first wife was Julia E. Gearhart, a native of New Cannon, Conn., whom he married in 1881. She died about eighteen months later, and on December 22, 1883, the doctor married Kate Evans, who is a native of Oregon and the daughter of A. J. and Elizabeth A. (Hasness) Evans. To this union six children were born, four boys and two girls. They are: Edgar Shelton, Lloyd Evans, Helen Elizabeth, Frank Myron, John Robert and Florence, the latter dying at the age of seven years.

The doctor has served the county and city in many official ways during his long term of residence. Was appointed on the U. S. Pension Examining Board of Holt County under Cleveland and with exception of four years has since held that office. Has been a member and secretary of the Oregon school board since 1893, resigning the membership in 1915 but is still secretary. Served the city as alderman several years and held the office of city clerk.

FRANK PETREE.

Frank Petree is one of the prominent attorneys of Oregon, and it has been through his personal efforts and highly efficient business principles that the firm of Petree Brothers, attorneys at law and abstractors, has become so well known throughout Holt County and all Northwest Missouri. It was 1897 that he and his brother, W. A. Petree, established themselves in the county seat town as counselors at law. Three years later they bought a set of abstracts and the office is now one of the busy corners of the city. Frank Petree is the senior member of the firm and conducts the business with an able corps of office assistants, his brother being in the employ of the Bartlett Brothers Land and Loan Company of St, Joseph.

Frank Petree was born in Andrew County, Missouri, September 9, 1861. There he grew to young manhood and received his early education. In the year 1883 he took up his residence in Kansas and resided in that state until 1897 when he removed to Oregon, his present home.

Mr. Petree is the son of Benjamin Petree, who was a native of Indiana and who settled in Andrew County, Missouri, in 1841, and where, with the exception of eight years spent in California, he made his home until his death which occurred in 1897. His wife was Lucy A. Earls, who was born in Clay County, Missouri, in 1837.

The subject of this sketch was married in Lincoln, Kan., November 4, 1891, to Estella Harris to whom five children have been born, namely: Lou Estella, Leo Webb, Harris Earls, Jay Ralph and Charles Benjamin. The three first named children are graduates of the Oregon high school.

Mr. Petree is a member of the Masonic and Modern Woodmen of America lodges.

WILLIAM LIPPS.

William Lipps has owned the farm on which he is living since 1864. He was born in Clay County, Kentucky, October 30, 1825, and is the son of Jesse and Hannah (Pierce) Lipps, natives of Tennessee. They resided in the county in which they were born for sixty years and died there. They were the parents of ten children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the only one living. William Lipps has long been prominent in the affairs of Union Township.

William Lipps grew to manhood on his father's farm and attended the public schools of the community. When he became of age he bought a farm in his native county and operated it until 1855, when he moved to Pettis County, Missouri. He

lived there until 1864 when he came to Holt County and bought the place where he now lives. He made many improvements and in 1902 built a handsome residence.

Mr. Lipps was married in October, 1846, in Clay County, Kentucky, to Miss Margaret Samples, daughter of John and Elizabeth Samples. They are the parents of sixteen children, seven of whom are living: Mrs. Mary Asher, of Hiawatha, Kan.; Daniel, of Craig, Mo.; Mrs. Margaret Quimby, of Craig; Mrs. Rosa Nash, of Chillicothe, Mo.; Mrs. Hannah Hardin, of Craig; Mrs. Margaret McLaughlin, of Sioux City, Iowa; Mrs. Elizabeth Quimby, of Atchison County, Missouri. Mr. Lipps is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and politically he is a Republican.

JAMES H. MEADOR.

James H. Meador has owned the farm on which he resides in Union Township since 1880. He was born in Independence, Mo., March 14, 1847, and is the son of James D. and Nancy J. (Holloway) Meador, natives of Tennessee and Jackson County, Missouri. They lived in Jackson County for nearly fifty years and were the parents of four children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the only one living.

James Meador grew to manhood in Independence and was educated there. He moved to Atchison County in 1874 and lived there four years before coming to Holt County and occupying the fine farm on which he now makes his home. He has greatly improved the place since buying it and in 1901 built a fine residence.

He was married to Miss Mary E. Guilliams October 25, 1877, in Holt County on the Hunt farm. She is a native of Holt County and the daughter of Calvin M. and Mary A. Guilliams, old settlers in the county. They have four children: Henry J., Letha M., Rufus E. and Ernest. Mr. Meador is a member of the Christian church. Like his ancestors he is a consistent Republican in politics.

ALEXANDER VAN BUSKIRK.

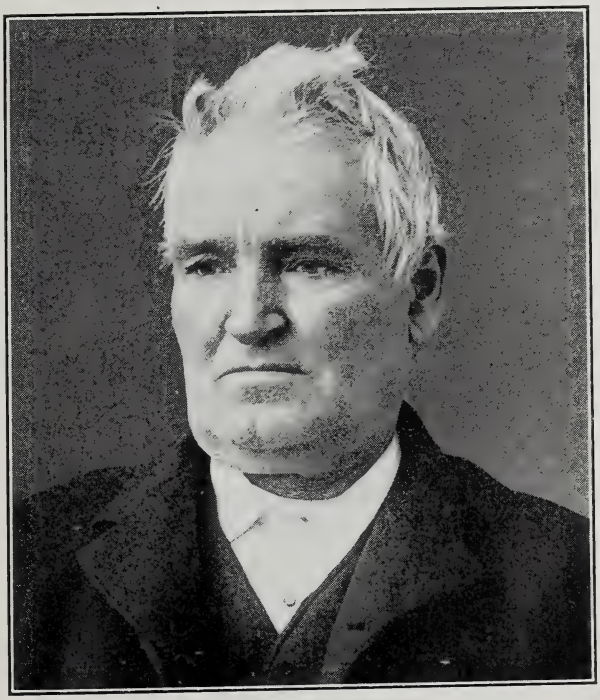
Alexander Van Buskirk, attorney at law in Oregon, has been in Holt County since 1852. He was born in Andrew County, Missouri, November 17, 1849, and came to Holt County with his parents when 3 years old. His education was reecived in the district and select schools supplemented by a commercial course under Thomas J. Bryant.

Mr. Van Buskirk was admitted to the bar in 1890 and has since practiced in Oregon. He is the owner of valuable town

property and land near the town and was one of the prime movers in the organization and building of the Oregon Interurban Railroad. He was married October 12, 1871, to Charlotte V. Cummins, of DeKalb, Ohio, daughter of George and Charlotte Cummins. They have two daughters, Mrs. Caroline Lehmer, mother of one son, Lawrence; and Mrs. Rebecca Allen, mother of three children, Paul, Ruth and Charlotte.

The judge has always been a consistent Democrat and has been active in the service of his party. He is a member of the Masonic lodge at Oregon and the Presbyterian church.

He is the son of E. Van Buskirk, whose ancestors were origi-



JUDGE E. VAN BUSKIRK

nally from Holland and among the early Dutch settlers in America. E. Van Buskirk was born in Richland County, Ohio, February 25, 1822, and lived there until past 19 years of age. He was educated in the log cabin school house near the scene of his birth.

E. Van Buskirk, at the age of 20 years, came with an uncle, Daniel Van Buskirk, to Andrew County, where he found employment in the printing business, which he had learned in Knox and

Lorraine Counties, Ohio. He was connected with the first newspaper published in Andrew County, the Savannah Western Empire. He then went to Weston, Mo., where he became the publisher of the Weston Empire. That was in 1847. The following year he returned to Savannah and became the editor and publisher of the paper he had helped establish.

In the spring of 1852 Mr. Van Buskirk came to Oregon and the following year was elected clerk of the circuit court. He held this office for six years and was re-elected for another term. While in that office he had an excellent opportunity to study law and was admitted to the bar in 1865. For nine years he was in partnership with Daniel Zook. In the spring of 1874 he began practicing alone, and so continued until 1890 when he was stricken with paralysis and was compelled to retire. At this time his son, Alexander, was admitted to the bar and took up his father's work. A second stroke of appoplexy occurred August 15, 1895, which resulted in the death of Mr. Van Buskirk.

Previous to the Civil war he was a Benton Democrat and remained a Democrat all of his life. During the rebellion he was an uncompromising Union man and was elected a member of the Missouri State Convention, which convened in the early part of the year 1861, the purpose of which was "to consider the existing relations between the United States and the government and people of the State of Missouri," and what steps should be taken by Missouri. This convention held Missouri in the Union. Mr. Van Buskirk was widely known throughout the Platte Purchase and was prominently before the people, either as a public official or as an energetic and able lawyer. He was park commissioner in establishing the present beautiful Court Yard Park.

C. W. NUTE.

C. W. Nute does a general flour, feed and undertaking business and is one of the substantial business men of the town. He came to Holt County in 1869 and lived the first year near Oregon. Then he moved to Clay Township and bought a farm in section 20, south of Maitland. It was raw prairie land when he began, but he developed it into one of the best improved farms in that part of the county.

In February, 1886, Mr. Nute moved to Maitland and engaged in the furniture and undertaking business, which he continued for two years. Then he went into partnership with Joseph Hoblitzell, under the firm name of Hoblitzell & Nute. They did a good business in furniture, hardware and undertaking. This partnership continued for two years when Mr. Nute bought the interest of Mr. Hoblitzell and took as a partner Mr. James French, the style of the firm being changed to Nute & French. After five years Mr. French retired and Mr. Nute conducted the

business alone for a year, when he traded the hardware department to Mose Caldwell for a farm in Gage County, Nebraska, near Beatrice, who ran that part of the business for six months, when he sold to Thomas Zachary and Wm. Randall, who ran it a year. At that time Mr. Hoblitzell bought the hardware stock and he and Mr. Nute again formed a partnership and ran the combined business as formerly under the firm name of Hoblitzell & Nute. After a year they sold the furniture part to Ed McNaul. A year later the hardware stock and fixtures were sold to the E. W. Gire Hardware Company and it was moved to Graham. At that time Mr. Nute took the undertaking department and with his son Charles began business under the name of C. W. Nute & Son.

C. W. Nute was born in Elizaville, Fleming County, Kentucky, March 2, 1850, and came to Holt County in 1869. He is the son of Charles G. and Elizabeth Nute. His father was a native of New York and his mother of Kentucky. Mr. Nute was married at Oregon, Mo., February 12, 1874, to Miss Alice Bartram, eldest child of Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Bartram and who was born in Marion County, Ohio, April 2, 1850. They have four children: Charles, Grace, who married Bether Goodpasture; Florence, who married Herman Gilfillan and Watt Nute. He is a member of the Fraternal Aid Union and was a delegate to the Supreme lodge that convened at Pasadena, Calif., July, 1915. He belongs to Masonic lodges and the United Brethren church.

Mr. Nute is also a member of the State Funeral Directors Association, and was treasurer of that organization in 1901 and a delegate that year to the National Funeral Directors Association in Atlanta, Ga. He has served two terms as mayor of Maitland and ten years as justice of the peace and still holds the office. He was elected police judge in April, 1916, and has served four terms as member of the school board.

DAVID A. GELVIN.

As an inspiration to the youth of the country the career of David A. Gelvin of Maitland stands out in bold relief when compared with many who have not the hustle, integrity and energy which Mr. Gelvin possesses. One of the wealthy men of Holt County he has made his way in the world from a beginning represented by practically nothing through no instrumentality but his own efforts. He has demonstrated what can be done by a proper mixture of hustle and perseverance. His example is well worth emulation by the youth of today who will be the grown men of tomorrow.

Mr. Gelvin was born in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, August 4, 1850. He came to Missouri in the spring of 1870, without means and in a strange land. He worked first on a farm

three miles east of Oregon for John Young, with whom he remained for one year. Then he farmed for himself two years, working among the neighbors during the winter months for his board.

In 1873 Mr. Gelvin went back to Pennsylvania, where his father died. Before coming to Missouri he showed the stuff of which he was made before he was hardly grown. When about 18 years old he worked on a railroad section, unloaded cars and did siimlar work. Then in order to increase his earnings he would saw wood in the evening, after his day's work at his regular employment was finished. His father had sold the farm and turned young David loose to shift for himself. Tried in the crucible of stern necessity he was not found lacking in any essential and there began the career of hard work and hustle to which he can now refer with justifiable pride.

Mr. Gelvin returned to Missouri in the fall of 1873 and the following year farmed on what is now known as the George Tritt farm and raised his first wheat crop on the ground where the Woodville church stands. In March, 1875, he moved to an eighty acre farm east of the Whig Valley Station. From this modest beginning he has extended his real estate holdings until he now has between 4,000 and 5,000 acres of fine Holt and Nodaway County land. He has so much faith in his native county that he has never sold but one quarter section and that was done in order to straighten out the boundary lines of his home ranch. He has one of the best blue grass farms to be found anywhere and each year strips from 6,000 to 10,000 bushels of seed which is sold in Paris, Ky. His home farm has been named Blue Grass Ranch, and contains 3,300 to 3,500 acres.

The start in the cattle business of which Mr. Gelvin has made a wonderful success was the purchase of a lousy calf from a man by the name of Fietz, near New Point. From that one calf has been developed one of the largest cattle feeding and shipping industries in the country. For forty years he has been shipping fat cattle and hogs. For many years he had the reputation of shipping more fat cattle to the Chicago market than any other local shipper. He began feeding cattle in 1876 and each year since has fed from one car to 1,500 head. He is now feeding 500 head of cattle and about 800 hogs.

During the years 1878 to 1880 Mr. Gelvin was in partnership with E. F. Weller in the live stock and merchandising business. This was at the time Mr. Weller located in Maitland. The store was subsequently sold to Brady & Ewing.

Mr. Gelvin has been twice married. The first time on November 19, 1874, to Miss Lizzie R. Hershner, who died May 21, 1895. To this union the following named children were born: Elsie, now Mrs. Dr. George H. Curfman, of Denver,

Colo.; Cora May, now Mrs. George Stevenson, of Tarkio, Mo.; Luella, now Mrs. Joseph Myers, of Maitland; Ernest, who married Miss Gladys Brumbaugh, and lives near Maitland; Katherine, wife of Walter Rankin, a grandson of David Rankin, of Tarkio; Ora Ruth, who is in college. Mr. Gelvin was married the second time February 6, 1896, to Miss Mary E. Myers, of Newville, Pa. To them has been born one child, Francis V.

Fraternally Mr. Gelvin is a Knights of Pythias; religiously a Presbyterian and politically a Republican. He has also been the president of The Peoples Bank of Maitland from the date of its incorporation, December, 1895, to the present time.

DR. FRANK G. BEARD.

Dr. Frank G. Beard, one of the successful practitioners of Holt County, has in Maitland, a modern, exceptionally well appointed office, with the latest appliances for the treatment of the various ills with which the human family is afflicted.

Dr. Beard's career has been one of ambition and hard work. He has surmounted many obstacles and is now enjoying the success to which his untiring efforts entitle him. He was born in Cowley County, Kansas, December 11, 1886, and spent some time on a cattle ranch owned by his parents. He was married May 27, 1911, to Miss Frances McKee of Sheridan, Mo. He studied medicine in the medical department of the Valparaiso University, of Chicago, and was graduated from that institution in May, 1914.

The month following his graduation Dr. Beard was appointed city physician, police surgeon and health officer of the city of St. Joseph. He was the first police surgeon in that city and did good work in the revision of the city ordinances relating to the health department. In June, 1916, the office of health officer was created and he was named to fill it.

While in St. Joseph Dr. Beard did the first research work in America on the subject of scarlet fever vaccine. Since then it has been taken up nationally and is now being used extensively in New York. It was also used in Omaha successfully in an epidemic of scarlet fever there.

Dr. Beard located in Maitland in January, 1917, and has built up there a most successful practice.

JOHN BRITTAIN BRIDGEMON.

John Brittain Bridgemon, proprietor of an automobile agency and garage at Maitland, was born in Bigelow, Mo., October 3, 1884. He is the son of J. F. Bridgemon, of Bigelow, who was one of the pioneers in the development of that section of

Holt County, a representative citizen and a successful farmer.

The subject of this sketch was educated in the schools of Bigelow, supplemented by a course in the Kirksville State Normal and the Quincy, Ill., business college. In 1904 he went to Craig and engaged in the hardware business and remained there three years. Then he engaged in a similar line of merchandising in Bigelow and in May, 1916, moved to Maitland, where he has one of the best appointed garages in the county.

Mr. Bridgemon was married April 11, 1905, to Miss Blanche Caldwell of Craig. They have one child, Edna. Mr. Bridgemon has memberships in the Woodmen of the World, Knights of Pythias and Masons. Religiously he is a member of the Christion church and politically his affiliations are with the Democratic party.

DR. STROTHER B. BRAGG.

Dr. Strother B. Bragg, veterinary surgeon of Oregon, has been practicing there for about eight years, and with good success. He was born March 3, 1874, in Hickory Township, one mile west of New Point, on the farm his grandfather, Thomas S. Bragg homesteaded in 1845, and which is still in the family. Thomas S. Bragg was born in Virginia and was one of the men who made possible the speedy development of this section of Holt County. His wife was Rebecca Ann Hutchinson.

Dr. Strother B. Bragg is the son of William Thomas and Emma F. (Walker) Bragg. His father was born in Harrison, Ky., and his mother in Council Bluffs, Iowa. She is still living in Oregon. Her husband, William T. Bragg, died October 20, 1891, at the age of 47 years.

Dr. Bragg got his early education in the common schools, supplemented by a course in Spaldings Commercial College at Kansas City. His professional education was at the Western Veterinary College, in Kansas City. He was graduated from that institution in the spring of 1903. He first practiced at Fillmore, Mo., then at Maysville, Mo., and Robinson, Kans., before locating in Oregon. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen lodges.

CHARLES D. ZOOK.

Charles D. Zook, of Oregon, has been identified with the business life of his home town as a banker and merchant for many years. He has been successful in business to the degree that he is now rated as one of the wealthiest men in Holt County. He has shown in many ways his public spirit in the affairs of the town in which he lives. He has often assisted people in their

struggles to secure a home for themselves and their children. Evidence of his good business judgment and his fair dealing with his fellow man is found in the fact that he has never foreclosed a mortgage. His habit of doing business on business principles has endeared him to a large circle of friends.

His father and uncles were pioneers in business affairs in northwest Missouri and few names have more important association with large enterprises in this section of the state than Zook.

Levi Zook, father of Charles D. Zook, came from Marion County, Ohio, to northwest Missouri in 1842, only five years after the Platte Purchase had become a reality. In 1850 he engaged in the merchandising trade with his brother William Zook, who died in 1876. Levi Zook was the son of G. F. and Annie (Forney) Zook and was married in 1859 to Mary Von Lunen, who died November 21, 1864. Levi Zook died in Oregon in April, 1895.

Charles D. Zook was born in Oregon, July 24, 1860. His early education was received in the schools of his home town. He attended the Missouri University, 1879-1880. He then engaged in the retail merchandising business in Atchison County. Later he was with the banking firm of Zook & Thomas at Mound City. He sold his interests there and engaged in the wholesale boot and shoe business in Kansas City from 1885 to 1890. Since that time he has been in the banking business in Oregon, being president of the old established banking house of the Zook & Roecker Banking Company. Its cashier for a number of years was the late Albert Roecker. This is one of the oldest banking institutions in Northwest Missouri.

Mr. Zook also is one of the principal stock holders of the Byrne & Hammer Dry Goods Company, of Omaha, one of the largest wholesale houses in that city.

Mr. Zook was married February 19, 1884, to Miss Emma Curry, daughter of James and Mary Curry, early residents of Oregon. They have one daughter, Mary, the wife of Dr. S. B. Hibbard, of Kansas City. In politics Mr. Zook is a Democrat, but his activities have never been in the direction of seeking office for himself, but always for the benefit of the party organization. He was on the Democratic State Committee for one term. In 1911 Mr. Zook was appointed superintendent of the rebuilding of the Holt County Court House, a work that was accomplished in a thoroughly creditable manner, to the satisfaction of the County Court and the public in general. He has served as a member of the school board for a number of years.

DR. CLYDE B. SPANGLER.

Dr. Clyde B. Spangler, osteopathic physician located in Maitland June 4, 1913, and established himself in offices over

the Farmers' Bank. He is one of the close, observant students in his line and it is but natural that he should meet with success. None of the public affairs of the town were too complicated or bothersome for him and he gave of his time and efforts to make Maitland one of the best towns on earth. Dr. Spangler was born in Paris, Ill., March 12, 1881. He attended the public schools of his native town and then gradauted from the high school there. For two years following his graduation he took some special work in the Eastern Illinois Normal School, at Charleston. In 1907 he went to Kirksville, Mo., and attended the American School of Osteopathy, graduating therefrom in 1911. He practiced in Greensburg, Ind., for a year and a half. Then he returned to Kirksville to pursue his studies further, thereby the better equipping himself for the practice of his profession.

The subject of this sketch is the son of Manford B. and Melle (Hutton) Spangler. He was married November 30, 1905, to Miss Lola E. McAchron, who was born in Mattoon, Ill. They have one son, John Boyce. Fraternally Dr. Spangler is a member of the Masonic, Elks, Modern Woodmen, Woodmen of the World and Knights of Pythias lodges. He is a member of the Missouri State Osteopathic Association and the American Osteopathic Association. He is also a member and vice-president of the Northwest Missouri Osteopathic Association.

CHARLES D. WELLER.

Charles D. Weller, real estate, loans, fire, life and tornado insurance, is a native of Holt County. He was born January 13, 1882, in Maitland and has always lived in the town of his birth. He was educated in the Maitland schools and at the age of 18 years entered his father's bank—the Farmers'—where he was assistant cashier for a time. Later he was advanced to the office of cashier. After ten years of service he quit the banking business to engage in a general real estate and insurance business. He has offices over the Farmers' Bank. He does a large business in farm lands and town property, his sales averaging from $300,000 to a million dollars a year.

He is the son of Ernest F. and Ruth (Jenkins) Weller, who also reside in Maitland. The senior Weller is one of the pioneer bankers of this part of the country and a highly respected citizen.

Charles D. Weller was married in Maitland September 19, 1901, to Miss Pearl Summers, who was born in Maitland April 9, 1880, and who is the daughter of L. D. Summers, one of the old time druggists of the town. Mr. and Mrs. Weller have four children: Carol, Ruth, Ernestine, Charles D., Jr., and Joseph Kingsley. Mr. Weller is a member of the Knights of Pythias, Odd Fellows, Elks, Woodmen of the World, Modern Woodmen

and Fraternal Aid Association lodges. He has served on the town board and was a member and treasurer of the Maitland Fair Association when it was reorganized a few years ago.

It was through the efforts of Mr. Weller that the farm property in his neighborhood was increased in value from $75 to $100 per acre in 1910 to $125 to $200 an acre at the present time. He has made two big deals in real estate which are worthy of mention. In June, 1911, he sold the S. B. Hayzlett farm five miles south of Maitland containing 865 acres for $100,000. Included in the deal was a 2,000 acre farm in Dallas County, Missouri, for $5,000. The other deal was the O. D. Batman farm in trade with the Charles D. Lawrence farm, the consideration being $101,000. This was in April, 1915. Recently Mr. Weller sold 380 acres seven miles north of Maitland for $70,000.

LEE SMITH.

Lee Smith, one of the proprietors of the Smith Hardware Company, dealers in hardware, furniture, vehicles and farm implements is one of those men, the type of which no town has enough. The business with which he is identified occupies the double front brick building erected by J. M. Kenyon in 1904.

Lee Smit hwas born in Holt County, Missouri, on his father's farm in Clay Township July 2, 1890. He was educated in the Maitland high school and the University of Missouri. After finishing his education he spent a year and a half in South Dakota and Minnesota. Returning to Missouri he bought, on January 1. 1914, a half interest in the McNaul hardware store in Maitland and engaged in business using the firm name of McNaul & Smith. This partnership continued for two years when Mr. McNaul died. Mr. Smith and his father bought the interest of the deceased partner and the business has been continued as the Smith Hardware Company.

Lee Smith is a son of W. H. Smith, a native of Ohio and who came to Holt County about thirty years ago. He is yet living on his farm in Clay township.

Mr. Smith was married January 20, 1915, to Miss Ruth Metcalf, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Metcalf of Holt County. They have one son, Frederick, born April 2, 1916. Mr. Smith is a member of the Masonic lodge.

EARLE SPELLMAN.

Earle Spellman, a native of Mound City, where he was born June 4, 1882, is the proprietor of the Spellman Restaurant in St. Joseph where he has been living for the past eleven years.

He is the son of Matt and Mary Elizabeth (McRoberts)

Spellman, who were prominent citizens of Mound City for many years. The senior Spellman first went there as a tinner to put the roof on the Mound City Mill. He liked the town so well that he decided to locate. Subsequently he was in the hardware business with J. M. Kenyon at Maitland; later he was in the same line of merchandising in Mound City. Afterward he was in the livery business there. He died in Mound City July 21, 1889. Mrs. Spellman is still living in Mound City.

Earle Spellman began his business career when a mere boy, and has made good. He did what he found to do in his home town and when yet a young fellow engaged as a news and laundry agent, and for one year ran the Mound City steam laundry. He entered the employ of the Bank of Mound City in 1901 and was bookkeeper there for four and a half years. In January, 1906, he went to St. Joseph and for two and a half years was assistant cashier for Swift & Co. He then went with the Standard Oil Company and served one year as bookkeeper and two years as traveling salesman.

In September, 1911, Mr. Spellman bought the Boston Lunch on Francis street and ran the place nearly three years. Then he ran a cafe at 418 Francis street and in December, 1915. opened his present place at 418 Felix street, two doors west of the Corby-Forsee Building, and is conducting a first class cafe.

Mr. Spellman was married June 25, 1913, to Anna Evans, who was born in Andrew County. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World, Court of Honor and Elks lodges.

IRA J. ALKIRE.

Ira J. Alkire, school teacher and farmer, was born near Fortescue, May 31, 1883. He is the son of Will J. Alkire, a native of St. Charles County, Missouri, who came to Holt County in 1854. His wife was Martha J. Boyd, a native of Salem, Nebr. Ira is one of a family of five children all of whom were born in the county.

Ira J. Alkire attended the public schools in the community in which he was reared and finished his education in the Stanberry Normal School. After graduating from that institution he taught school for a while, but in recent years has been devoting himself to the occupation of farming.

He was married November 20, 1904, to Miss Ella Watts. They have an interesting family of three children. Fraternally Mr. Alkire is a member of the Masonic and Modern Woodmen lodges; religiously he is a Christian and politically his affiliations are with the Republican party.

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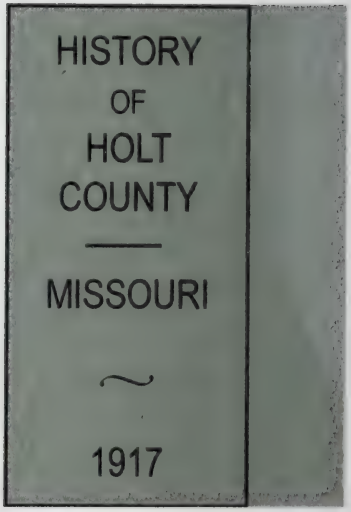
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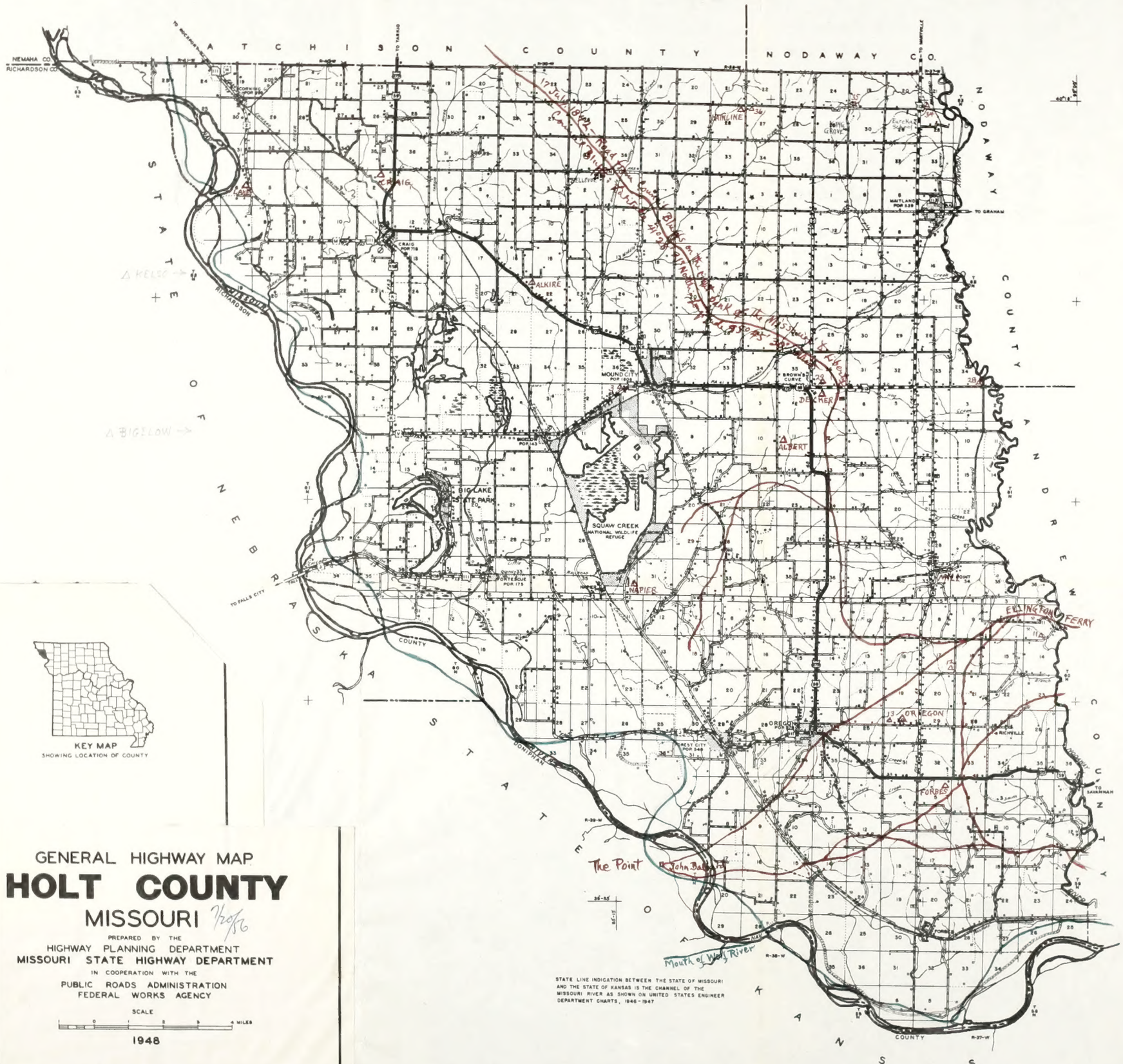
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